

READI WORK PLAN

# OUR REGION | OUR PLAN

Clark County | Floyd County | Jefferson County | Scott County | Washington County



OUR

**8% 15% 77%**

**READI FUNDS**

**PUBLIC FUNDS**

**PRIVATE FUNDS**



**13,100**  
New Direct &  
Indirect Jobs

**\$662M**  
Additional  
Economic  
Output

**\$56M**  
One-time Tax Revenue  
**\$20M**  
New Annual Tax Revenue

**2,200**  
New Housing  
Units

**58,000**  
New Residents

## OUR READI Submission Includes:

The *Our Region | Our Plan* needed to be a tool for everyone - no matter their location, position and capacity. Although the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority led this planning effort, it was critical to the board that every government agency and local organization was included in the development and ultimate ownership of the plan. After all, this is OUR plan for the future. To accommodate the diverse stakeholders and their varying role in the plan's implementation, *Our Region | Our Plan* was comprised of a suite of documents that both build on and complement one another. Building upon this approach, a *READI Work Plan* was drafted to support the *Regional Economic Development Plan* and *Organizational Work Plan* for the Our Southern Indiana region's READI submission. Together, our submission includes the following documents:



### **OUR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN:**

The award-winning Regional Economic Development was adopted in 2019 and updated in 2021. This document outlines the strategic direction for the region, including initiatives outside of READI.



### **OUR ORGANIZATIONAL WORK PLAN:**

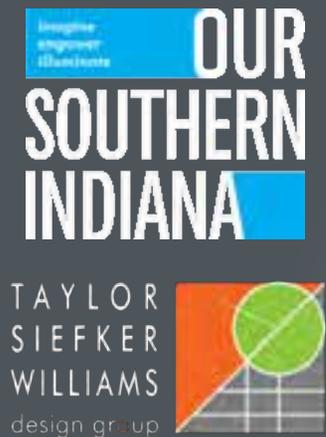
This work plan provides direction on how the RDA can and should function, including staffing, funding, and plan updates.



### **OUR READI WORK PLAN:**

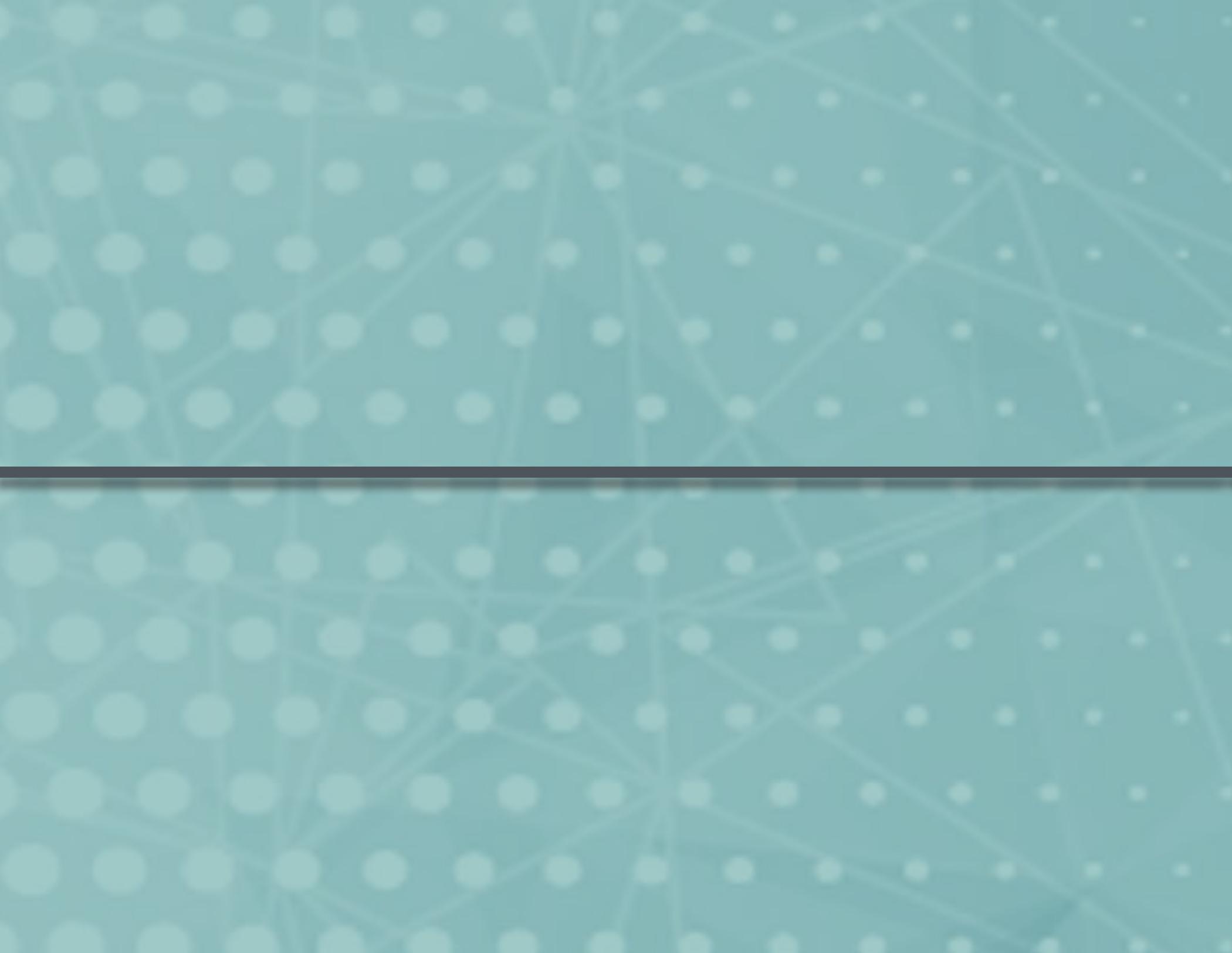
This work plan builds upon the Regional Economic Development Plan and addresses the specific information and criteria required by READI.

The *Our Region | Our Plan Regional Economic Development Plan* and the supporting *Our Region | Our Plan County Work Plans* and the *Our Region | Our Plan Organizational Plan* were adopted by resolution by the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority Board on August 16, 2019 and updated on September 24, 2021. The READI Work Plan was adopted on September 24, 2021.



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CHAPTER ONE

# OUR Region

# OUR



**The Our Southern Indiana region can welcome new Hoosiers to the state by simply bringing Kentucky residents across the river to Indiana with our lower housing costs, better access to employment nodes, and quality of life amenities.**

**The Our Southern Indiana region is home to 285,000 Hoosiers, and it is a place like no other!** We blend cultures from across state lines and welcome new Hoosiers to our region from just across the Ohio River. As Hoosiers, we love basketball, checkered flags, and the Colts just like the rest of the state – it’s just that our colts happen to be thoroughbreds. Here in Our Southern Indiana, our community and culture are rooted in strong Hoosier values – but mixed with a little southern flare. In Our Southern Indiana you will be greeted with Hoosier and southern hospitality and shown that life here is about our communities, our neighbors, and our families. And there’s something here for everyone!

We love our city life just as much as our agricultural heritage. We balance our 116,000 acres of parks and natural spaces with our historic downtowns. We welcome millions of visitors a year through our regional connections and unique destinations. Our local governments are working together to solve issues and our partners are building the infrastructure needed to support our housing, our businesses, and our education. Our quality of place is attracting new jobs and our educational institutions are aligning our workforce. We are joined as a region and Our Southern Indiana is READI to move!

***Our five-county region is a significant influence within a 1.3-million-person, bi-state MSA that is outpacing Indiana in population growth and employment growth.<sup>1</sup>*** Our region has an opportunity unlike any other in our state. Our Southern Indiana is not only a competitive force in bringing new businesses and people to Indiana, but we can also grow the Hoosier population by simply bringing Kentuckians across the river with the high quality of life of that Indiana has to offer.

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<sup>1</sup> 2010-2019 Population Growth (source ESRI Business Analyst): Indiana (3.8%), Our Southern Indiana Region (4.1%), Louisville MSA (5.3%), and United States (6.3%). 2010-2019 Employment Growth (source Woods and Poole/Department of Commerce): Our Southern Indiana Region (13.2%), Indiana (13.7%), Louisville MSA (17.4%), and United States (17.9%).

# OUR Region

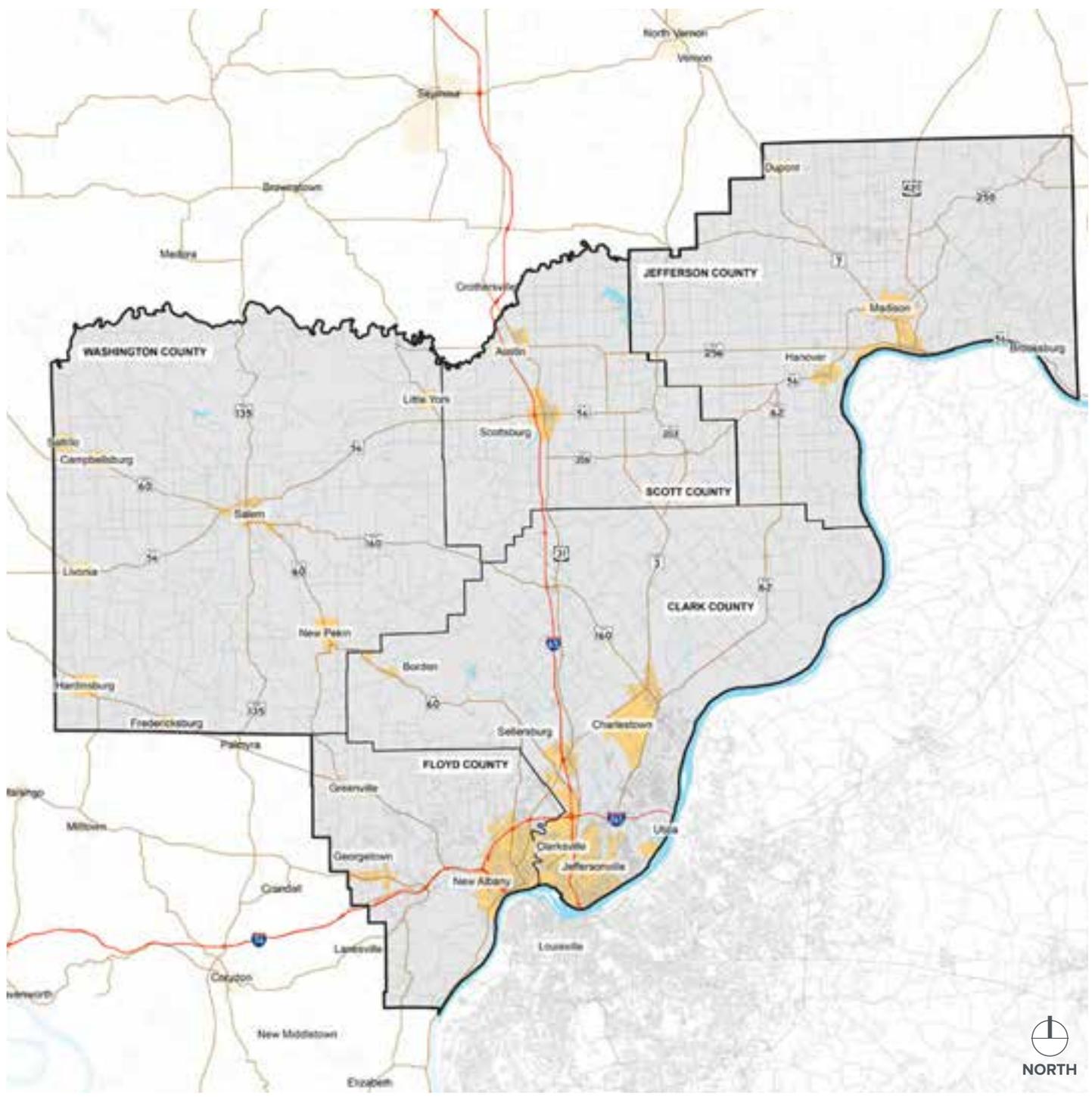
## IDENTIFICATION OF THE REGION

### OUR Geographic Boundaries

While boundaries on a map are often seen as defining lines, what makes – and better yet, what defines – a region is more than lines on a map. **Our 22 incorporated cities and towns and the unincorporated areas of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington counties define OUR Southern Indiana.** These areas are defined by topography and share a natural and cultural history that is unique to the area. While separate geographies, the five counties are well connected to one another and to the broader Louisville, Indianapolis, Evansville, and Cincinnati markets.

It is human nature for local officials or businesses to want to focus only on the “win” for their community. Regionalism and regional transformation require the work and inspiration of individuals who can see the bigger picture and identify the needs of many, not just one community. For this reason, our region doesn’t end at political boundaries – or even state boundaries. Discussions about forming the Our Southern Indiana RDA initiated in 2015 because our leaders saw the importance of regional collaboration. By 2017, all five counties were on board. **Together we are a stronger influence – a stronger influence within the Louisville MSA, a stronger influence within the state, and a stronger influence within the country.**

Our partners include the five counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington in addition to the 22 cities and towns and numerous non-profit and private organizations that are actively part of our regional economic development plan. But our region isn’t just a place that is dominated by the cities with rapid growth; **our partners are linking arms and lifting up those small towns that do not have the capacity to implement critical projects to move the entire region forward.** In addition to our local government entities, our region is equipped with countless private and non-profit organizations that are READI to step up to help overcome our challenges. No matter the size, Our Southern Indiana sees each community as an asset to the region. We have learned to work together as a region and we are READI to show the state and, even the country, the potential that awaits.



**MAP LEGEND**

-  *Our Southern Indiana Boundary*
-  *Incorporated area*
-  *Interstate corridor*
-  *Highway*
-  *Roads*
-  *Railroad*
-  *River, Lakes, Ponds and Reservoirs*



## OUR Common Bond Makes Us a Region

Southern Indiana means different things to different people. Geographic maps, economic or demographic data, and governmental boundaries defining Southern Indiana can be found in any number of configurations - including some counties and excluding others. While boundaries on a map are often seen as defining lines, what makes – and better yet, what defines – a region is more than lines on a map.

Regions are often defined by topography and natural features, and the residents who call the region home have a sense of shared history, culture, and community values. Regions are not just contiguous properties; they are areas that are well connected to one another and well connected to broader metropolitan area.

***Our region is defined by our bi-state employment base, our commuting patterns, our shared natural and cultural history, and our people.*** The region's assets and trends reinforce why we have defined ourselves as a region and is further outlined in *Our Region | Our Plan Chapter 4: OUR Assets and Trends*. ***Now is the time to leverage these assets and trends to harness the opportunity of this moment.***



### OUR Bi-State Employment Base Defines Our Region:

***Our region is part of a 1.3-million-person MSA with over 837,000 jobs that is outpacing Indiana in population growth and employment growth.*** Our five counties are connected economically through job opportunities and commerce. The region is well connected to Louisville, and multiple long-range infrastructure investments such as the Ohio River Bridges project have made commuting into and out of the greater Louisville area more convenient. This improved access has allowed Southern Indiana employment centers and tourism destinations to grow and thrive, while encouraging immense housing growth that exceeds that state with lower housing costs than the Louisville MSA as well as all individual counties within the MSA except Henry County, Kentucky.<sup>2</sup>

Our regional employment clusters as well as our workforce development partners have competitively positioned our region within the larger MSA, state, and nation. Together they have elevated our region and will continue to leverage our trends to achieve our vision.

### OUR Commuting PATTERNS DEFINE OUR REGION:

The Ohio River is a defining physical barrier for our region, but how people and goods move around and through the region is also a defining factor. We are part of a bi-state region where the largest principal city and largest cluster of jobs is on the other side of a river. This requires multiple, expensive river crossings, and those crossings become key factors in commuting patterns. Hoosiers in our part of the state know the importance of flexibility during peak commutes across the river if unforeseen accidents occur. Our commuting patterns define our region because of tens of thousands of commuters that cross our bridges daily.

<sup>2</sup> 2021 Median Home Value (source ESRI Business Analyst): Henry County, KY (\$166,479); Our Southern Indiana (\$179,868); Bullitt County, KY (\$188,040); Jefferson County/Louisville, KY (\$203,853); Spencer County, KY (\$229,505); Shelby County, KY (\$243,543); and Oldham County, KY (\$305,506).

OUR ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS





### **OUR Shared Natural and Cultural History Defines Our Region:**

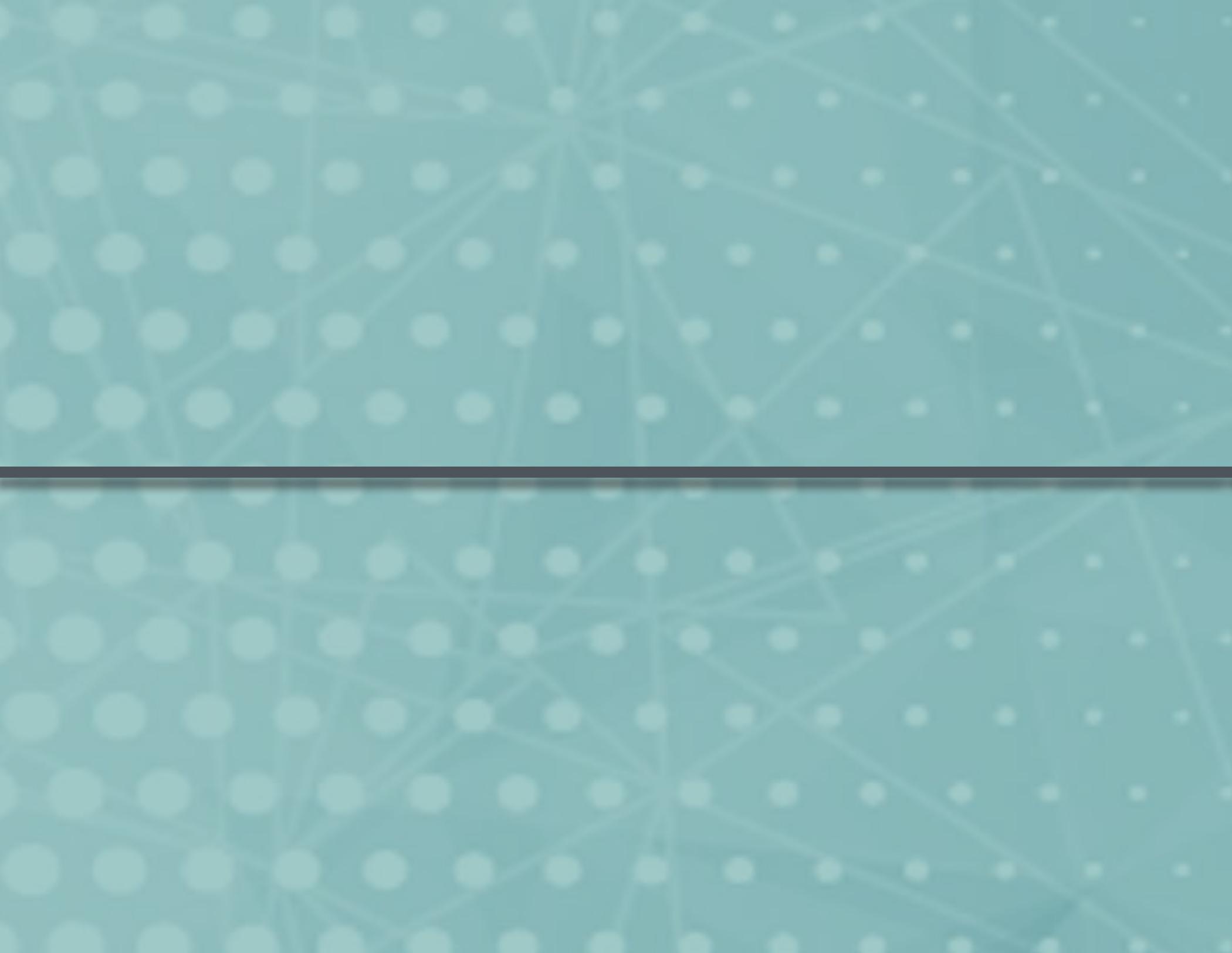
Our Southern Indiana is characterized by our natural amenities while still being just 90-seconds away from the 29th largest city in the US. Our region can offer all the amenities Louisville has because we are intrinsically part of its urban fabric, but Our Southern Indiana allows our residents a retreat with over 116,000 acres of parks, quaint downtowns, unique topography, and picturesque views.

Being part of a bi-state region, Our Southern Indiana has a different bond as Hoosiers in a region that is predominately Kentuckians. Our heritage as Hoosiers is deep rooted and we are fiercely proud of that heritage. ***We don't try to merge our image with Louisville, rather we use our heritage and common bond as Hoosiers to stand out and stake our claim in the Louisville region.***

### **OUR People Define Our Region:**

From historic school rivals to non-profits that help neighbors in need, our people and organizations are what truly unite our region. We can rally to support an initiative or solve an issue because we have local leaders, businesses, citizens, advocates, and organizations that care about and are vested in our future. All of these stakeholders, with differing viewpoints and opinions, are needed to have a well-rounded community and economy and to achieve our vision; ***they are all striving to make our region better tomorrow than it is today – and this commitment defines who we are.***





# 2

CHAPTER TWO

## OUR Current State

OUR

A black and white photograph of a crowded outdoor festival. In the foreground, a dense crowd of people is walking. In the middle ground, several large white tents are set up. In the background, a tall, thin spire rises above a line of trees. The sky is overcast with clouds.

**Our region and MSA are  
both both growing faster  
than Indiana.**

The current state of a region is reflective of its past and provides insight for the future. *Our Region | Our Plan* is based upon the region's current conditions, including demographic, economic, fiscal, and political data, to ensure that the vision outlines an aspirational yet achievable path for the future. It is critical to understand and plan within the parameters of the region's conditions. This analysis was the foundation for regional recommendations that are needed to leverage the assets and trends within the region.

## OUR Demographic and Economic State

Our region and MSA are both experiencing population growth higher than Indiana's (2010-2019) and are both projected to continue to outpace Indiana in population growth by 2026.<sup>1</sup> *Our Region | Our Plan* (Chapter 3: Our Present Condition) includes demographic and economic information for each of the five counties and 22 cities and towns that are part of Our Southern Indiana. A snapshot of our demographic and economic conditions is provided on the following pages.

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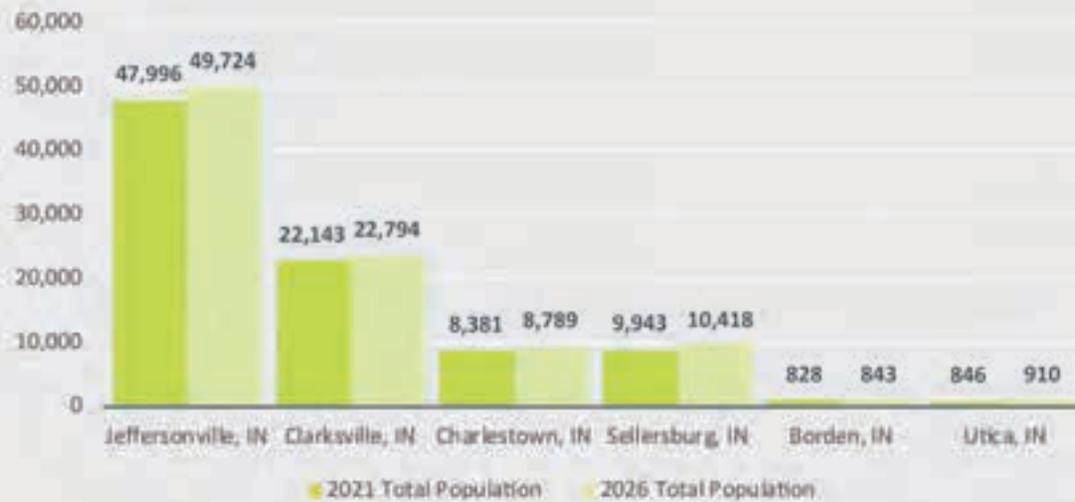
<sup>1</sup> 2010-2019 Population Growth (source ESRI Business Analyst): Indiana (3.8%), Our Southern Indiana Region (4.1%), Louisville MSA (5.3%), and United States (6.3%). 2010-2019 Employment Growth (source Woods and Poole/Department of Commerce): Our Southern Indiana Region (13.2%), Indiana (13.7%), Louisville MSA (17.4%), and United States (17.9%).

# OUR Current State

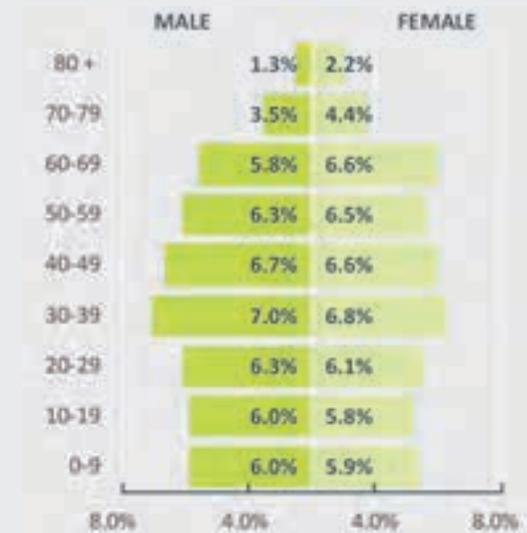
## CLARK COUNTY, INDIANA



### Projected Population Growth



### Age and Gender (2021)

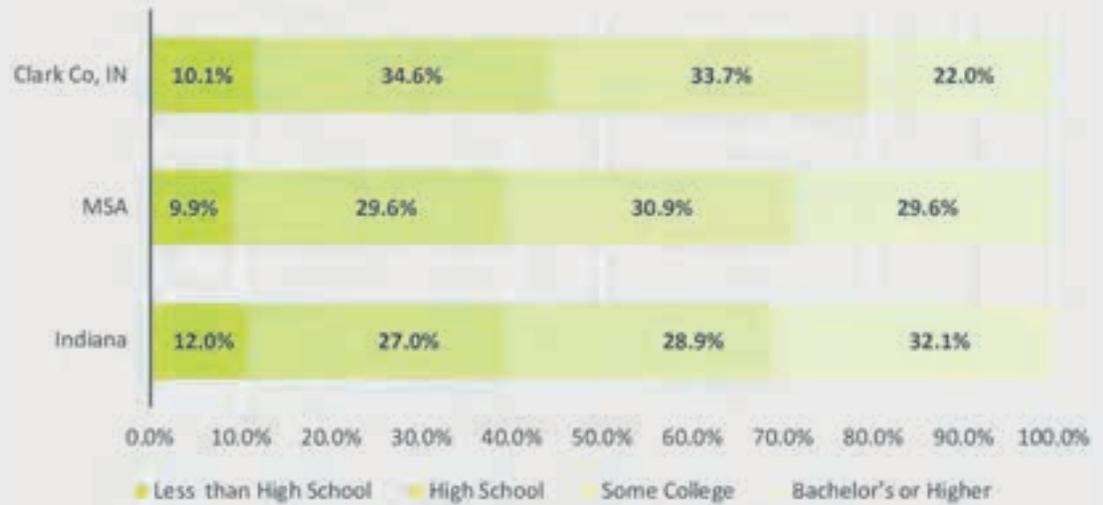




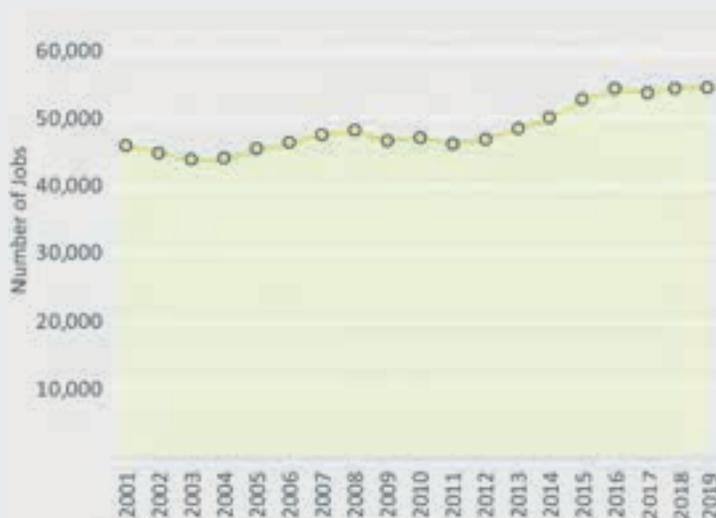
### Commuting (2021)\*



### Educational Attainment (2021)



### Long Term Employment (2019)



### Annual Wage by Industry (2019)



\*STATS Indiana Annual Commuting Trends Profile Apr 19, 2021

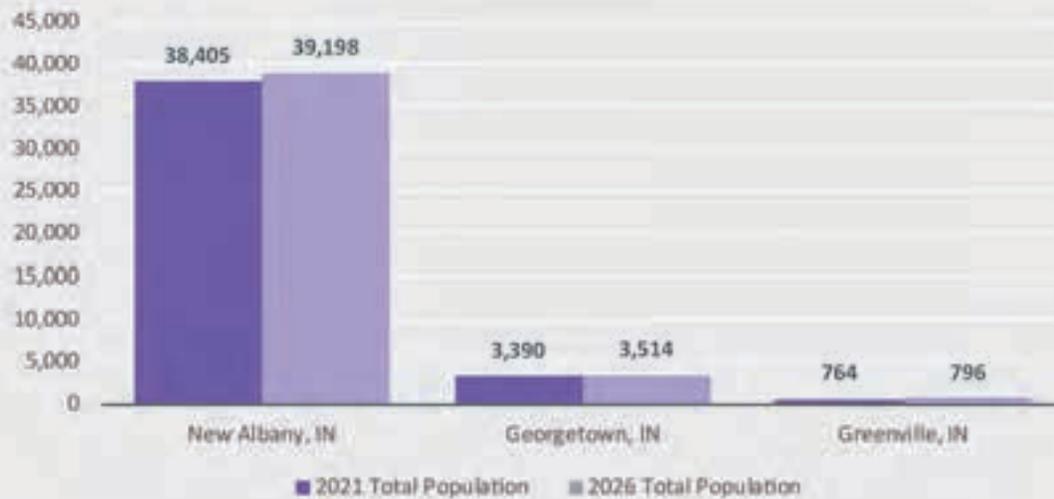
Data provided by ESRI Business Analyst, August 2021

# OUR Current State

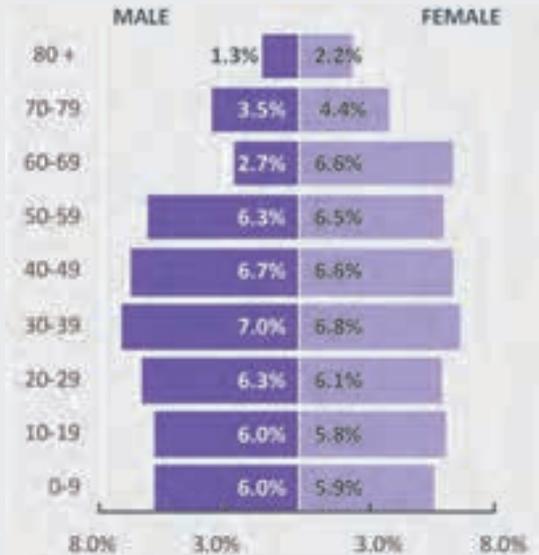
## FLOYD COUNTY, INDIANA



### Projected Population Growth



### Age and Gender (2021)





### Commuting (2021)\*



**31%**  
of the workforce  
work outside of  
the county

**17%**  
of the workforce  
live within other  
counties



### Educational Attainment (2021)



### Long Term Employment (2019)



### Annual Wage by Industry (2019)



\*STATS Indiana Annual Commuting Trends Profile Apr 19, 2021

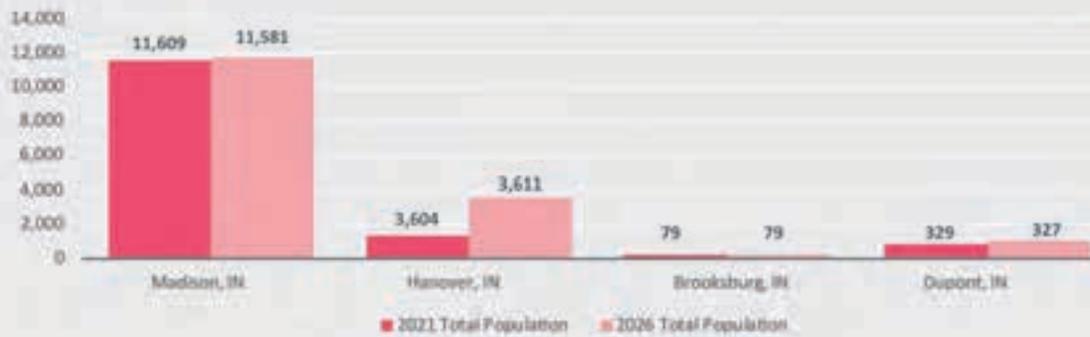
Data provided by ESRI Business Analyst, August 2021

# OUR Current State

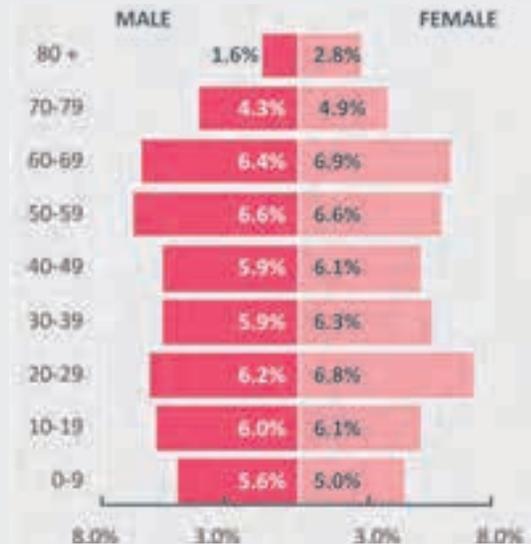
## JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA



### Projected Population Growth

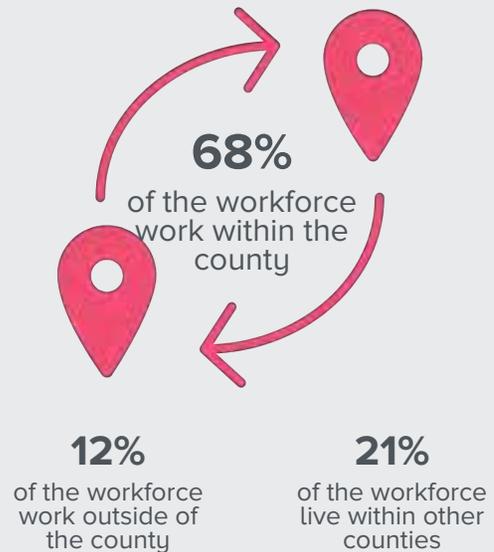


### Age and Gender (2021)

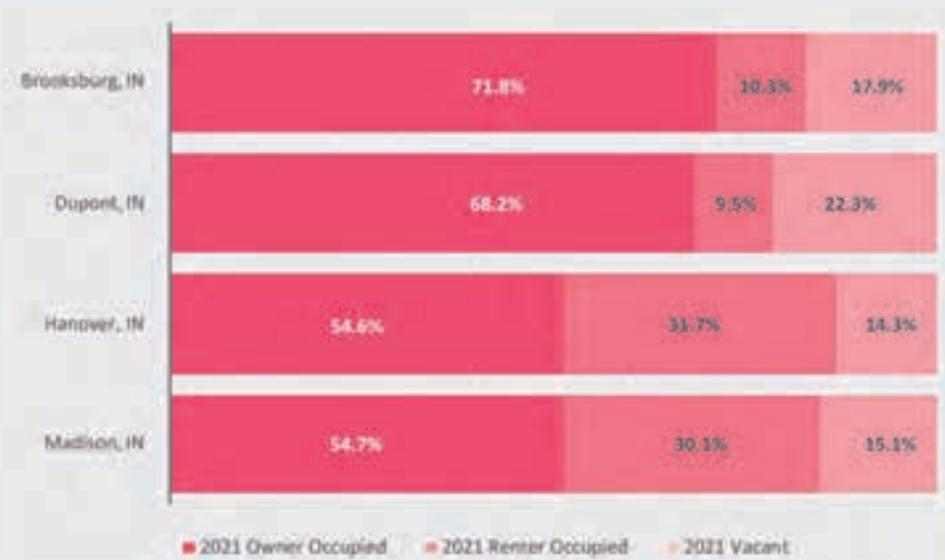




### Commuting (2021)\*



### Educational Attainment (2021)



### Long Term Employment (2019)



### Annual Wage by Industry (2019)



\*STATS Indiana Annual Commuting Trends Profile Apr 19, 2021

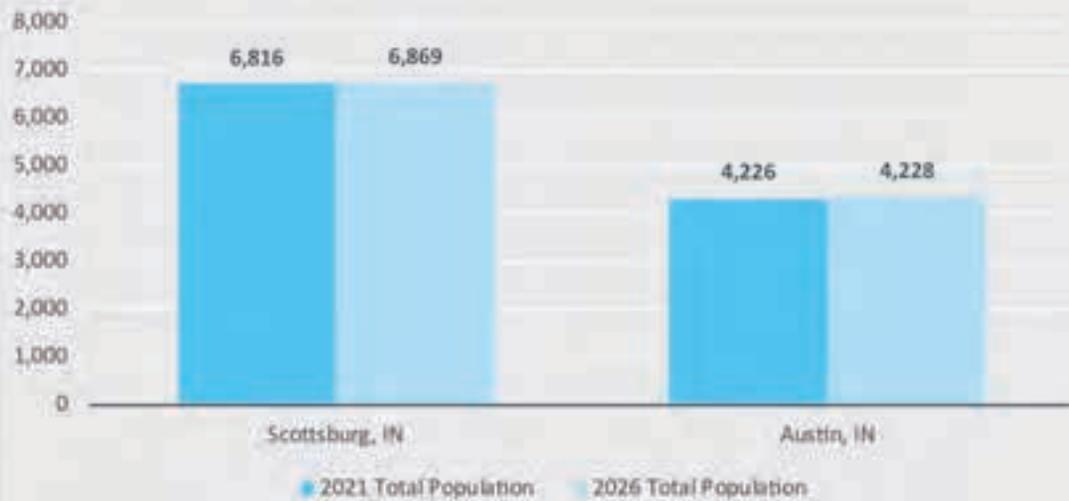
Data provided by ESRI Business Analyst, August 2021

# OUR Current State

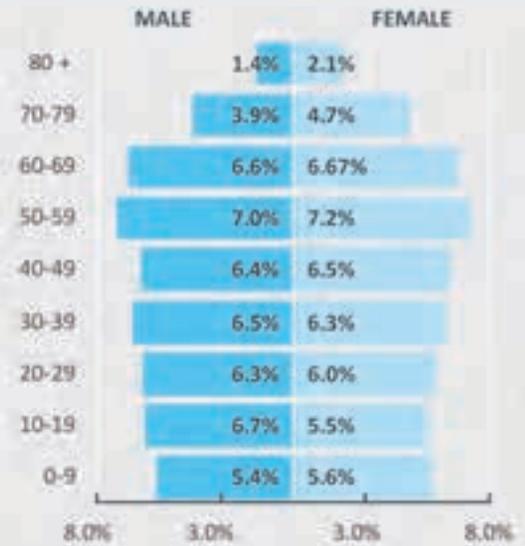
## SCOTT COUNTY, INDIANA



### Projected Population Growth



### Age and Gender (2021)





### Commuting (2021)\*

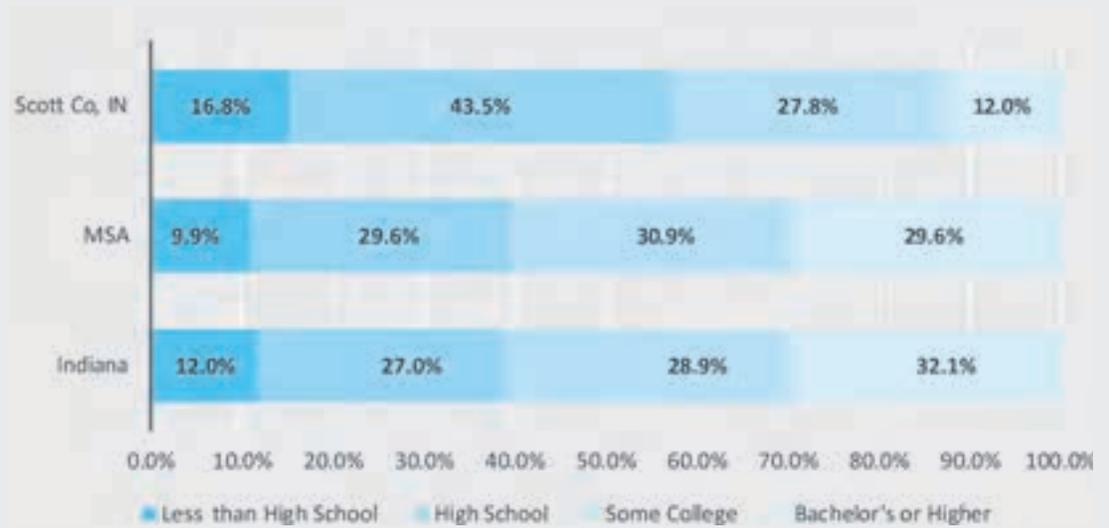


**24%**  
of the workforce  
work outside of  
the county

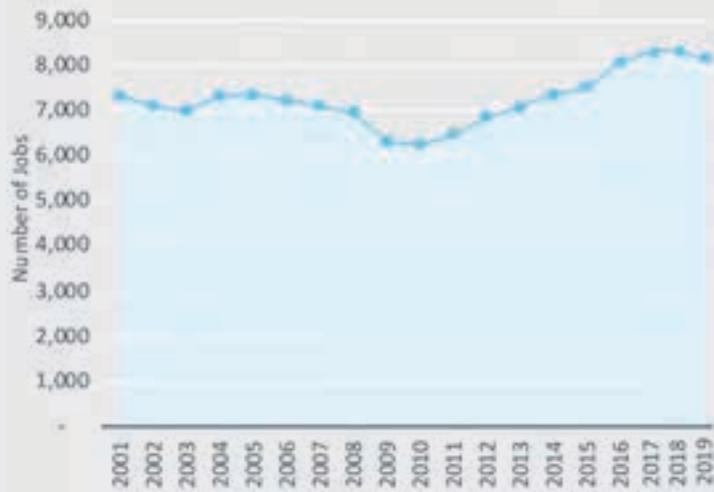
**11%**  
of the workforce  
live within other  
counties



### Educational Attainment (2021)



### Long Term Employment (2019)



### Annual Wage by Industry (2019)



\*STATS Indiana Annual Commuting Trends Profile Apr 19, 2021

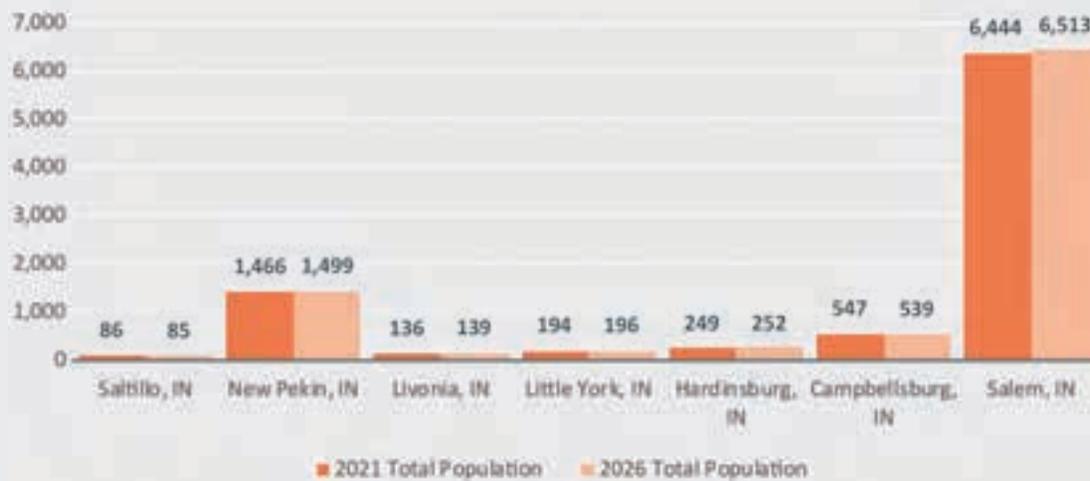
Data provided by ESRI Business Analyst, August 2021

# OUR Current State

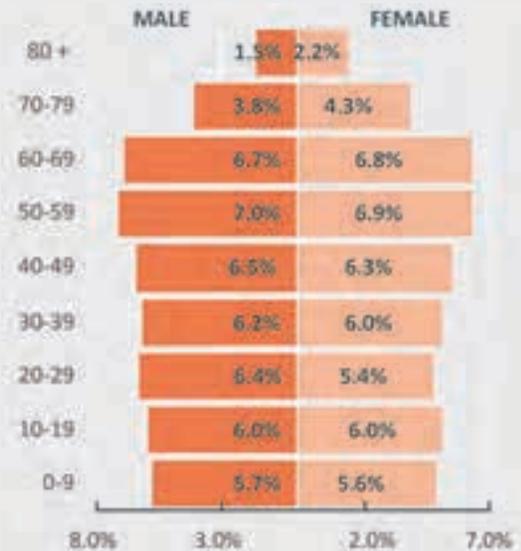
## WASHINGTON COUNTY, INDIANA



### Projected Population Growth



### Age and Gender (2021)

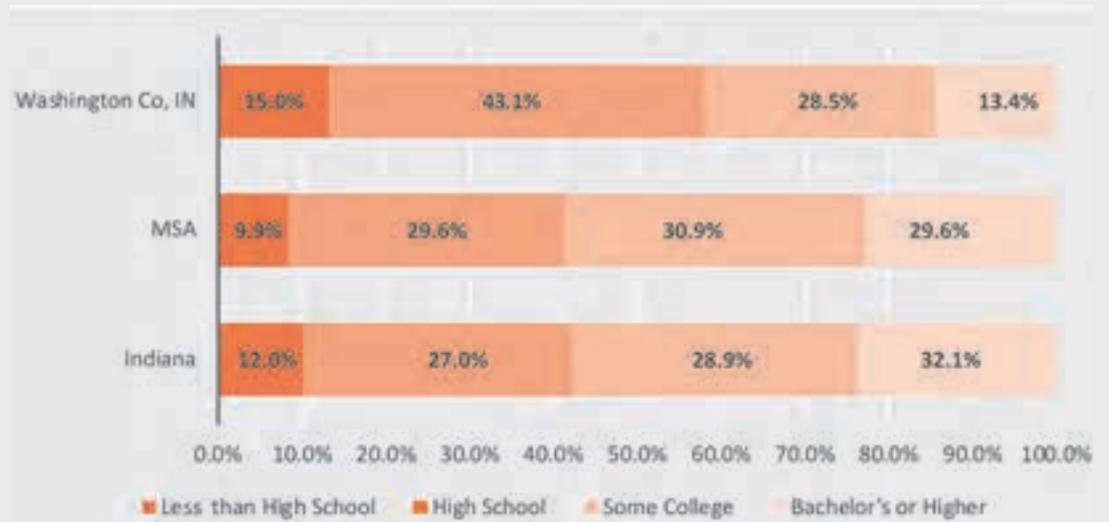




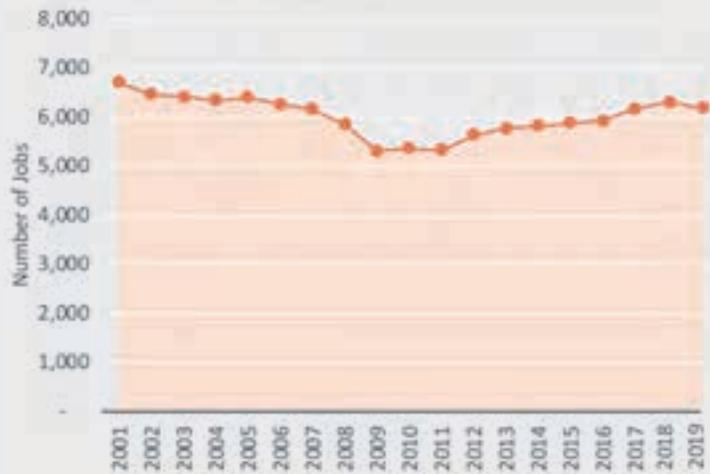
### Commuting (2021)\*



### Educational Attainment (2021)



### Long Term Employment (2019)



### Annual Wage by Industry (2019)



\*STATS Indiana Annual Commuting Trends Profile Apr 19, 2021

Data provided by ESRI Business Analyst, August 2021



We are  
**READI**

## OUR Funding and Leverage

We recognize that our resources, both local and state, are finite and we don't want to waste them. This plan is our commitment to work together, as one team, for the betterment of Southern Indiana. Our region will leverage funds by more than just matching dollars. We recognize that we need to achieve a larger impact from every public dollar through private investment, both direct and indirect. However, we also recognize that we can leverage funds by focusing on catalyst projects that will create momentum for future phases and future projects. ***This is our commitment to not just leverage state funding with local and private commitments but also to clear the critical path forward for future projects and investment – our plan will not and cannot end with this work plan!***

*Our Region | Our Plan includes a total of 62 projects, and the 18 projects in our READI Work Plan will leverage over \$1 billion in public and private project funding. This level of impact and commitment from our region's partners cannot be taken lightly, but we must have a realistic approach to implementation. From the 62 projects and programs, our region has prioritized 18 catalyst projects and programs that are included in this READI Work Plan; these initial projects and programs will foster transformation, complete critical steps towards change, create momentum, and propel many of the remaining projects forward.*



# READI by the Numbers



**2,200**

New Housing  
Units

**\$56M**

One-time Tax Revenue

**\$20M**

New Annual Tax Revenue

**\$662M**

Additional  
Economic  
Output

# We are READI. Our partners are READI. Our region is READI.

We have vetted our projects, including their readiness and ability to successfully deliver within the four-year timeframe for completion. The various counties, cities, towns, non-profits, and private institutions and businesses have provided their commitments to not only executing their project or program within four years but they have also provided their funding commitment. The following table outlines the sources of local public funding, private funding, and philanthropic or non-profit funding.

READI PROJECT NAME	FUNDING SOURCE		FISCAL YEAR 2022	FISCAL YEAR 2023	FISCAL YEAR 2024	FISCAL YEAR 2025	FISCAL YEAR 2026+
A. Star Valley Destinations - Tourism Events Center & Muddy Fork Reservoir	Private/Philanthropic	Friends of Borden Community Park	\$434,100	--	--	--	--
	Local Government	Borden, Borden Parks, Muddy Fork Conservancy	\$19,300	\$2,302,141	--	--	--
B. Destination Madison Quality of Place Projects	Private/Philanthropic	Central Hotel, Private Grocery	\$1,956,408	\$849,875	\$250,000	--	--
	Local Government	Madison, Madison Redevelopment	\$5,400,000	1,500,000	--	--	--
C. Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex at Scott County	Private/Philanthropic	Scott County Community Foundation, Scott County Family YMCA, Scott County Visitors Commission, Private Donors/Businesses	\$500,000	\$500,000	--	--	--
	Local Government	Scott County, City of Scottsburg, City of Austin, Scott County School Districts 1 & 2, Township Trustees	\$3,250,000	\$3,250,000	--	--	--
D. Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College & Ivy Tech Madison	Private/Philanthropic	Hanover College, Ivy Tech Madison	\$10,782,955	\$3,985,778	\$5,511,262	--	--
	Local Government	Town of Hanover	\$5,900,000	--	--	--	--
E. River Ridge Learning Center Early Childhood Education & Workforce Development Initiative	Private/Philanthropic	America Place, River Ridge Early Learning Academy, Southern Indiana Works	\$36,984,650	\$17,992,250	\$17,001,250	--	--
F. The ONE Fund - Entrepreneurial Support	Private/Philanthropic	Caesars Foundation of Floyd County, Render Capital	--	\$542,000	--	--	--
G. Family Scholar House & Ivy Tech Sellersburg Initiative	Private/Philanthropic	Ivy Tech Sellersburg, Family Scholar House, Ogle Foundation	\$7,560,000	--	--	--	--
H. Novaparke Innovation Corridor	Private/Philanthropic	Vectren, Edwardsville Water Private Developers	\$4,000,000	--	\$1,400,000	--	--
	Local Government	Floyd County	\$11,300,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	--	--

READI PROJECT NAME	FUNDING SOURCE		FISCAL YEAR 2022	FISCAL YEAR 2023	FISCAL YEAR 2024	FISCAL YEAR 2025	FISCAL YEAR 2026+
I. South Clarksville's Riverfront - Mixed Use Redevelopment	Private/Philanthropic	Denton Floyd Real Estate Group, Cornerstone Real Estate Group, Private Developers	\$32,000,000	\$108,000,000	\$2,000,000	--	--
	Local Government	Town of Clarksville, Clarksville Redevelopment Commission	\$24,012,103	\$19,828,583	--	--	--
J. Workforce Housing - Infrastructure & Property Acquisition	Private/Philanthropic	Private Developers	\$19,382,405	\$72,365,445	\$3,402,755	\$10,499,000	--
	Local Government	Charlestown Redevelopment Commission, Madison Redevelopment Commission, City of Salem	\$47,300	\$3,047,300	\$47,400	\$1,700,000	--
K. Origin Park, Phase I	Private/Philanthropic	River Heritage Conservancy	\$10,996,766	\$3,675,000	\$1,075,000	--	--
	Local Government	Town of Clarksville	\$500,000	\$3,500,000	\$5,000,000	--	--
L1. Regional Trails Align Master Plan	Private/Philanthropic	Align Southern Indiana	\$30,000	--	--	--	--
L2. South Monon Freedom Trail	Private/Philanthropic	Caesar's Foundation of Floyd County	\$5,000,000	--	--	--	--
	Local Government	Indiana Uplands READI Region, City of New Albany, Radius Indiana	\$2,750,000	\$4,000,000	\$1,000,000	--	--
L3. Lake Salinda Trail Connection & Bath House	Private/Philanthropic	Washington County Community Foundation	\$420,000	\$420,000	--	--	--
	Local Government	City of Salem, Salem Parks	\$140,000	\$140,000	--	--	--
L4. Hanover-Madison Connector Trail	Private/Philanthropic	IKE Clifty Creek Power Plant, Hanover College	\$102,500	\$705,000	\$598,000	--	--
M. Commerce Connector (River Ridge to US 31)	Private/Philanthropic	Private Developers	--	--	\$10,000,000	\$50,000,000	\$61,500,000
	Local Government	Clark County	--	--	\$1,275,900	\$5,319,600	--
N. Sellersburg Town Center District	Private/Philanthropic	Private Developers	--	\$10,000,000	\$10,500,000	\$8,000,000	--
	Local Government	Sellersburg Redevelopment Commission	\$5,000,000	--	--	--	--
O. Regional Broadband Readiness Plan	Private/Philanthropic	Community Foundations, Broadband Service Providers	--	\$50,000	--	--	--
	Local Government	Clark County, Floyd County, Jefferson County, Scott County	--	\$100,000	--	--	--
P. Salem Municipal Airport Hanger & Fueling Improvements	Private/Philanthropic	Airport Users	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$150,000	--	--
	Local Government	Board of Aviation, Washington County	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$165,200	--	--
Q. Wastewater Capacity at River Ridge	Private/Philanthropic	User Rates, Private Developers	\$30,000,000	\$60,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$31,500,000	--
	Local Government	City of Charlestown, City of Jeffersonville, River Ridge Development Authority	\$18,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$9,450,000	--	--
R. Star Valley Destinations - Wastewater Capacity for Residents & Tourism	Private/Philanthropic	Starlight Foundation, Soln Tourism, Private Developers	\$18,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$2,210,000	--	--
	Local Government	Town of Borden, Wood Township, Clark County	\$5,615,000	--	--	--	--

## OUR Past Efforts

***Our region did not just come together for this initiative, rather we have been preparing for an opportunity just like this since 2015.*** Efforts to create an RDA started in 2015 with a rocky beginning when many were not yet convinced of the benefits of regional thinking. After drafting the 2015 Regional Development Plan that was supported by the region, we ultimately failed to form an RDA for the Regional Cities Initiative. But we didn't give up. ***Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority is the result of a true regional partnership and compromise.*** Like any relationship, we have experienced highs and lows but came together in the end. Over two years of communicating, discussing concerns, and ultimately collaborating, our communities were able to have meaningful discussions about local concerns and collaborated to find a solution. In 2017 the Our Southern Indiana RDA was unanimously formed by our five county councils, and its leadership was appointed unanimously by the five county's board of commissioners.

Within a year of forming the RDA, our region embarked to create a new Regional Economic Development Plan, *Our Region | Our Plan*, in 2018-2019 which was funded and approved by IEDC. Our plan was also awarded the highest award for economic development planning in Indiana by the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA-IN). This plan has been the roadmap for the RDA and region. As stated in the 2019 plan, "The process was designed to be a collaborative, action-oriented process aimed at understanding the region's assets, determining appropriate regional goals, and developing realistic projects to achieve those goals." READI has now presented an ideal opportunity to expedite achieving our region's vision. We did not need to create a new plan or new vision. The 2019 *Our Region | Our Plan* is still our region's blueprint and minor updates were made to the plan in 2021, including updated demographic and economic statistics as well as updated projects and programs to achieve our vision.

Additional details regarding our past efforts, including local and regional planning efforts, can be found in *Our Region | Our Plan, Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 2: Our Past Efforts.*

# READI WORK PLAN SCHEDULE

## CALL FOR PROJECTS

June  
2021

August  
2021

## PLAN UPDATE

Regional Economic Development Plan  
and Organizational Work Plan

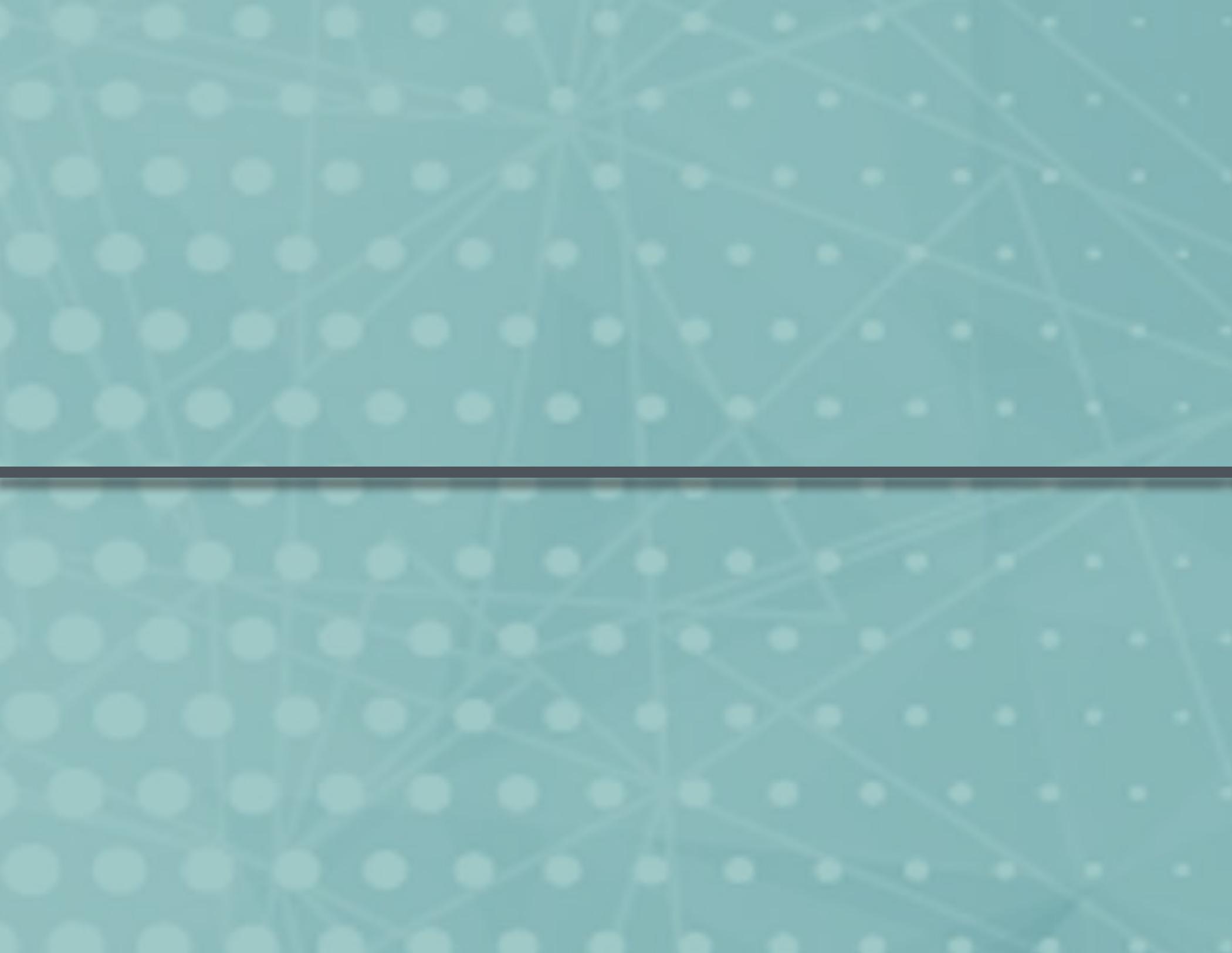
September  
2021

September  
2021

## PROJECT SCORING

## PLAN APPROVAL

READI Work Plan



# 3

CHAPTER THREE

## OUR Stakeholders & Implementation

OUR



We are  
**READI**

The *Our Region | Our Plan Organizational Work Plan* outlines how the RDA should function, including staffing, budgeting, and funding. A summary of our stakeholders and execution of the plan is provided below.

## Our Stakeholders

The team for implementation can make or break any project or program. This is true for a local project but even more important when working regionally. Our team is diverse, engaged, and collaborative, and – equally important – our team has strong and respected leadership. The Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority is the entity that was formed in 2017 to lead our five counties. The board of directors is supported and appointed by the local officials from all five counties to represent and lead efforts to grow our region in public settings. As a public entity with appointed officials that can act on behalf of our region, the RDA has the ability to convene our regional members with the purpose and powers as provided by Indiana Code. We all acknowledge that our vision, locally and regionally, cannot be achieved without this partnership.

Our stakeholders are described on page 11 of *Our Region | Our Plan* and are listed in the following pages.

# OUR Stakeholders

## RDA BOARD, PROJECT LEADERSHIP, AND EXECUTIVE STAFF

NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL	ROLE
<b>OUR SOUTHERN INDIANA RDA BOARD OF DIRECTIONS</b>			
Dana Huber	RDA - Clark County Representative	dana@oursoinrda.org	RDA Board Member
Ken Rush	RDA - Floyd County Representative	ken@oursoinrda.org	RDA Board Member
Kevin Kellems	RDA - Jefferson County Representative	kevin@oursoinrda.org	RDA Board Member
Steve Meyer	RDA - Scott County Representative	steve@oursoinrda.org	RDA Board Member
John Jones	RDA - Washington County Representative	john@oursoinrda.org	RDA Board Member
<b>COUNTY LEADERSHIP</b>			
Jack Coffman	Clark County Commissioner	jcoffman@co.clark.in.us	Appointing Body of RDA members
Shawn Carruthers	Floyd County Commissioner	s.carruthers@floydcounty.in.gov	Appointing Body of RDA members
David Bramer	Jefferson County Commissioner	david.bramer@jeffersoncounty.in.gov	Appointing Body of RDA members
Mike Jones	Scott County Commissioner	mljones5102@gmail.com	Appointing Body of RDA members
Phillip Marshall	Washington County Commissioner	d1comm@washingtoncounty.in.gov	Appointing Body of RDA members
Barbara Hollis	Clark County Council	BasketBarb@sbcglobal.net	Establishment of the RDA
Brad Striegel	Floyd County Council	bstriegel@floydcounty.in.gov	Establishment of the RDA
Pam Crozier	Jefferson County Council	pjcrozier527@gmail.com	Establishment of the RDA
Rachael Hardin	Scott County Council	rachaelhardin1@aol.com	Establishment of the RDA
Karen Wischmeier	Washington County Council	d4council@washingtoncounty.in.gov	Establishment of the RDA

NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL	ROLE
<b>PROJECT LEADERSHIP GROUP</b>			
Rita Shourds	Align Southern Indiana	rita@alignsi.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Lyn Longmeyer	America Place	llongmeyer@americaplace.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Mayor Treva Hodges	City of Charlestown	mayor@cityofcharlestown.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Mayor Mike Moore	City of Jeffersonville	mmoore@cityofjeff.net	Project Partner for Implementation
Mayor Bob Courtney	City of Madison	mayor@madison-in.gov	Project Partner for Implementation
Mayor Jeff Gahan	City of New Albany	mayor@cityofnewalbany.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Mayor Justin Green	City of Salem	justin.green@cityofsalemin.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Jack Coffman	Clark County	jcoffman@co.clark.in.us	Project Partner for Implementation
John Launius	Family Scholar House	jlaunius1@ivytech.edu	Project Partner for Implementation
Shawn Carruthers	Floyd County	s.carruthers@floydcounty.in.gov	Project Partner for Implementation
Kay Stokes	Hanover College	stokes@hanover.edu	Project Partner for Implementation
Travis Haire	Ivy Tech Community College Sellersburg	thaire4@ivytech.edu	Project Partner for Implementation
Scott Martin	River Heritage Conservancy, Inc.	smartin@riverheritageconservancy.org	Project Partner for Implementation
Jerry Acy	River Ridge Development Authority	Jerry@riverridgecc.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Lyn Longmeyer	River Ridge Learning Center	llongmeyer@americaplace.com	Project Partner for Implementation
John W. Mead	Salem Board of Aviation	jwmead@salemlaw.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Rachael Hardin	Scott County	rachaelhardin1@aol.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Tony Waterson	Southern Indiana Works	tony@soinworks.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Brenna LaDuke	Town of Borden	bordenvalleydays@gmail.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Town Manager Kevin Baity	Town of Clarksville	kbaity@townofclarksville.com	Project Partner for Implementation
Town Manager Charlie Smith	Town of Sellersburg	csmith@sellersburg.org	Project Partner for Implementation
<b>EXECUTIVE STAFF</b>			
Wendy Dant Chesser	One Southern Indiana	wendy@1si.org	Executive Staff

# Letters of Support

Our stakeholder groups are vast, visionary, diverse, and dedicated to our region. The foundation of *Our Region | Our Plan* was rooted in stakeholder participation and input. As we collaborated to draft the READI Work Plan, we asked our partners and stakeholders to show their support to the region and state. Our region once again did not disappoint with 202 letters from 181 organizations, businesses, residents, and local governments stating their support and endorsement of our region and our plan. Each letter of support can be found in Appendix A of this document.



## Our Team Doesn't End with Our Region

It is critical to form a team of leaders, stakeholders, and supporters from the region, but Our Southern Indiana will not let our search for partners end at the borders of our five counties. Just like each of our counties and 22 cities and towns working together, ***it is critical that our region sustains our partnerships with neighboring regions and the Louisville MSA, as well as Indiana and Kentucky.*** We are dedicated to supporting our neighbors and they are committed to supporting Our Southern Indiana.

***Our partnership with Louisville and Mayor Greg Fischer is imperative.*** With both of our regions being fundamentally joined geographically, economically, and socially, Louisville's mayor knows "all too well how important regionalism is to the success of not just our city but our metro area." He has applauded the work done by Our Southern Indiana and recognizes that "addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come."

***Our partnership with Radius Indiana is also vitally important in making our shared big ideas a reality.*** Our projects and programs are not limited by political boundaries within our region or even by the boundary of our region; we are working hand-in-hand with neighboring regions, such as Radius Indiana, to implement projects that cross multiple regions to achieve a larger impact for the state. This requires the same level of collaboration and partnership that we have created internally as our two regions plan to build "the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana." While this would be a major accomplishment for our regions and the state, the South Monon Trail would leverage and connect to the Ohio River Greenway, Origin Park, and the 100+-mile Louisville Loop with the Big Four Bridge spanning the Ohio River between downtown Louisville and downtown Jeffersonville. Big Four already attracts over a million visitors a year to the Indiana side alone, so just imagine what our regions can create with this new trail corridor.

Our regional corporation doesn't end with other regions in our area. Our leaders, businesses, and residents are also working with our legislators to help grow our region, and state. Senator Chris Garten supports our regional plan that will implement "many greater projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the fine counties." Senator Ron Grooms is another key partner of our region who believes "Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successfully, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative." Our region will continue to work with our legislators to achieve our region's vision and continue to put Indiana on the map nationally.

**“Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana’s comprehensive efforts to enhance the area.”**

**- State Senator Erin Houchin  
District 47**

**“Implementation of the Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth.”**

**- State Senator Chris Garten  
District 45**

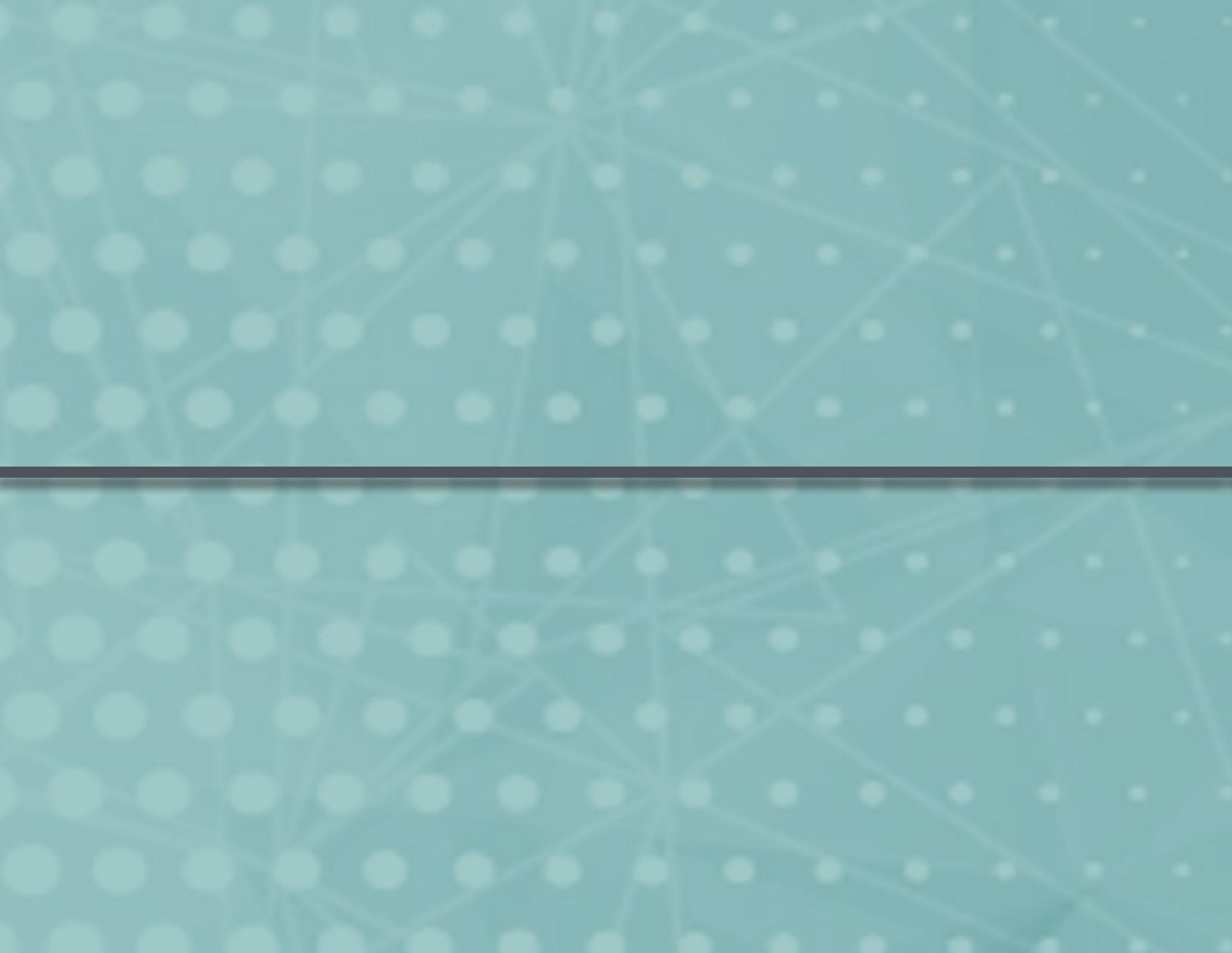
## Our Path Forward

Our region knows the importance of maintaining and updating the *Our Region | Our Plan* set of documents that includes the Regional Economic Development Plan, Organizational Work Plan, County Work Plans, and READI Work Plan. The Our Southern Indiana RDA will ensure that the plan and supporting documents are updated regularly in order to assess the long-term vision but also periodically update the projects and programs that are needed to achieve that vision.

*Our Region | Our Plan* also outlines the four-step process and framework for updating the region's plan. As detailed on pages 281-289 of *Our Region | Our Plan*, this process begins with the RDA participating in and identifying regionally significant projects; this step realistically doesn't ever end or stop. Our region is always changing and our partners are continually completing initiatives that create opportunity or momentum for the next impactful project. As new projects are identified, the RDA board should review these using the project scorecard which was developed to help define regionally-impactful projects and initiatives. Our plan also outlines the return on investment which should be evaluated for each project to ensure that resources are being allocated wisely. The final step of this process is to amend or update *Our Region | Our Plan* to reflect the changes within the region or new projects. While some updates to the plan may be minor and only include a few new projects, other updates for major funding initiatives (such as READI) may require a larger update.

The Organizational Work Plan identifies how the organization is and could be managed and funded, in addition to how the RDA can and should function. Budgets for updating the plan will vary depending upon the required updates but it is anticipated that projects would be developed and added annually. The RDA has proven its ability to successfully lead not only the creation of a plan but update that plan as necessary.





# 4

CHAPTER FOUR

## OUR Community Engagement

OUR

?

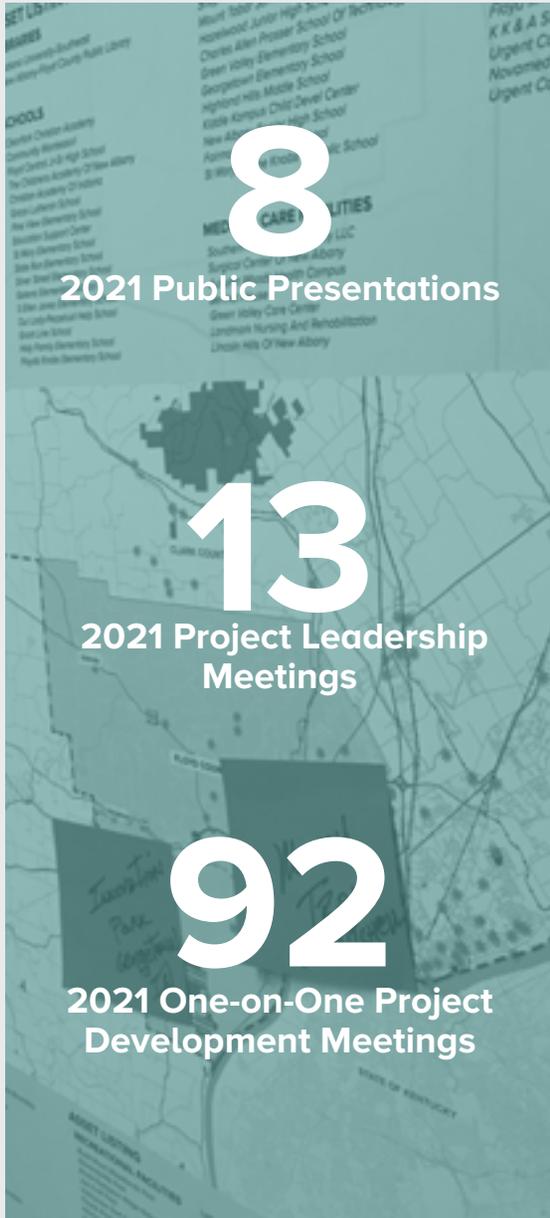
# VISION STATEMENT

Our Southern Indiana seeks to grow together as a region and collaborate for mutual benefit in order to: **Develop a globally competitive economy; Provide exceptional livability for everyone; Offer world-class amenities; and Celebrate the diverse people, places, and perspectives of Southern Indiana.**

## EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS:

Read the vision statement above and place a dot to vote if you agree.  
If you disagree, please use a post-it note and tell us why.

DISAGREE? TELL US WHY.	THE VISION STATEMENT...	I AGREE! VOTE HERE.
<p>Too Vague &amp; wordy</p>	is proactive.	<p>yes</p>
<p>Focus more sharply on Don Chide E.C. Dev. M.</p>	reflects our region's values.	<p>yes</p>
<p>Too mild, vague needs more input from our community to provide inspiration.</p>	is inspirational.	<p>yes</p>
<p>very hard to</p>		



8

2021 Public Presentations

13

2021 Project Leadership Meetings

92

2021 One-on-One Project Development Meetings

Engaging our partners and stakeholders is important in making the projects and programs in our plan a reality, but it is essential to ensure that the vision, goals, and ultimately the projects and programs we are implementing align with the public’s vision for our region. While we recognize that no region will gain 100% consensus on those projects or programs that should be implemented first, and the basis of our plan is rooted in identifying projects that bring the public’s vision and goals to reality.

## OUR Regional Collaboration

Our region was formed based on collaboration and compromise under the premise that by collaborating the region as a whole would benefit more than individual efforts alone. The Our Southern Indiana RDA has a unique perspective with the interests of the entire region at the forefront. The RDA has the opportunity to not only bring the diversity of its constituent communities and landscape together as a comprehensive whole, but it also allows the region to better leverage resources. It is the one entity that can provide a unified voice, both locally and to the state.

*Our Region | Our Plan* outlines four projects or initiatives that the RDA board is best suited to lead. Regional Collaboration (see Project 2 on pages 220-223) is a critical initiative that has been moving forward since 2015, and this RDA initiative will continue to progress with additional implementation steps through the *READI Work Plan*.

## OUR REGION | OUR PLAN PROJECT 2: REGIONAL COLLABORATION

To allow for the exchange of ideas and creative solutions to Southern Indiana's challenges, and to provide a more effective forum for discussing regional projects, facilitate the creation of a regional leadership round-table, and, together, advocate for regional initiatives at the state and local level.



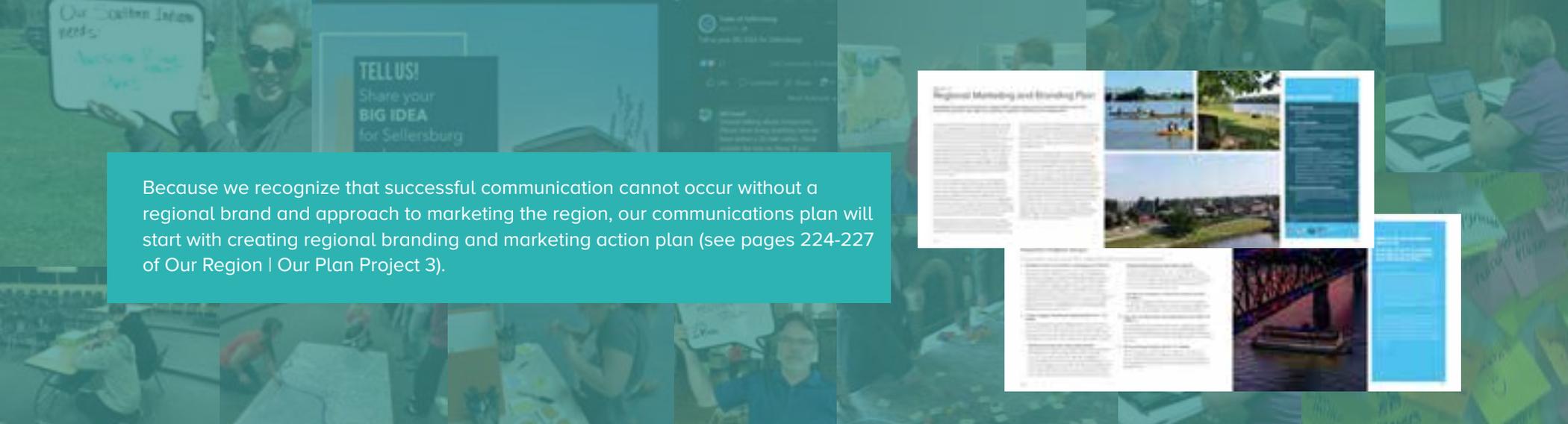
Chapter 1 of *Our Region | Our Plan* outlines the process and public engagement undertaken while drafting the 2019 plan. This included ten public meetings and presentations, 112 stakeholder interviews, and engagement of a 60-person leadership group that occurred in 2019. The RDA continued to provide monthly opportunities for the public to provide ideas and discuss issues throughout 2019 and 2020. The high level of engagement from the 2019 plan was then amplified in 2021 as the region prepared for READI.

Beginning in March of 2021, the RDA held monthly public forums for our region to discuss program details, project ideas, and concerns as the Indiana General Assembly was negotiating the final details READI. As program details were released, discussions became more focused; in total nine public meetings were held that allowed stakeholders and the public to provide their input. An online survey was also launched to gain public input on prioritization of the region's goals.

Our Southern Indiana didn't stop public engagement with public meetings. Knowing the public, stakeholders, and project partners would want to engage in continued dialogue, the RDA held weekly Zoom meetings to answer questions, brainstorm ideas, and connect potential projects. Thirteen Zoom meetings were held between April 2021 and September

2021. These meetings focused on questions or concerns, created a place for ideas to be vetted publicly, and also provided consistent messaging and information for local officials to bring back to their communities. Most importantly, the RDA utilized these 13 zoom meetings to remove the competition between projects and communities and to further build collaborative projects; our region continued to grow with the realization that we can't do it alone and that we must rely on our entire region for success.

Finally, our region recognizes that we won't reach the "masses" by holding public meetings and online sessions. We know our region has a powerful grassroots network that is more effective than any media or meeting in spreading the word. Each stakeholder, project partner, elected or appointed officials, and community staff member were challenged to talk about READI with their local residents, business owners, community groups, and organizations. By providing these leaders with information about READI and our plan, they became empowered not only to bring input back to the RDA but to also have more personal conversations with the public.



Because we recognize that successful communication cannot occur without a regional brand and approach to marketing the region, our communications plan will start with creating regional branding and marketing action plan (see pages 224-227 of Our Region | Our Plan Project 3).

## OUR Regional Marketing and Branding

Regardless of our region receiving READI funding, we will not stop and cannot stop communicating and collaborating. Over the past six years, Our Southern Indiana has come together like we have never done before, and those efforts will continue regardless of any funding program. However, if our region is able to leverage READI funding, we will be prepared with a well-rounded communication and engagement plan to include diverse stakeholders and audiences throughout the region.

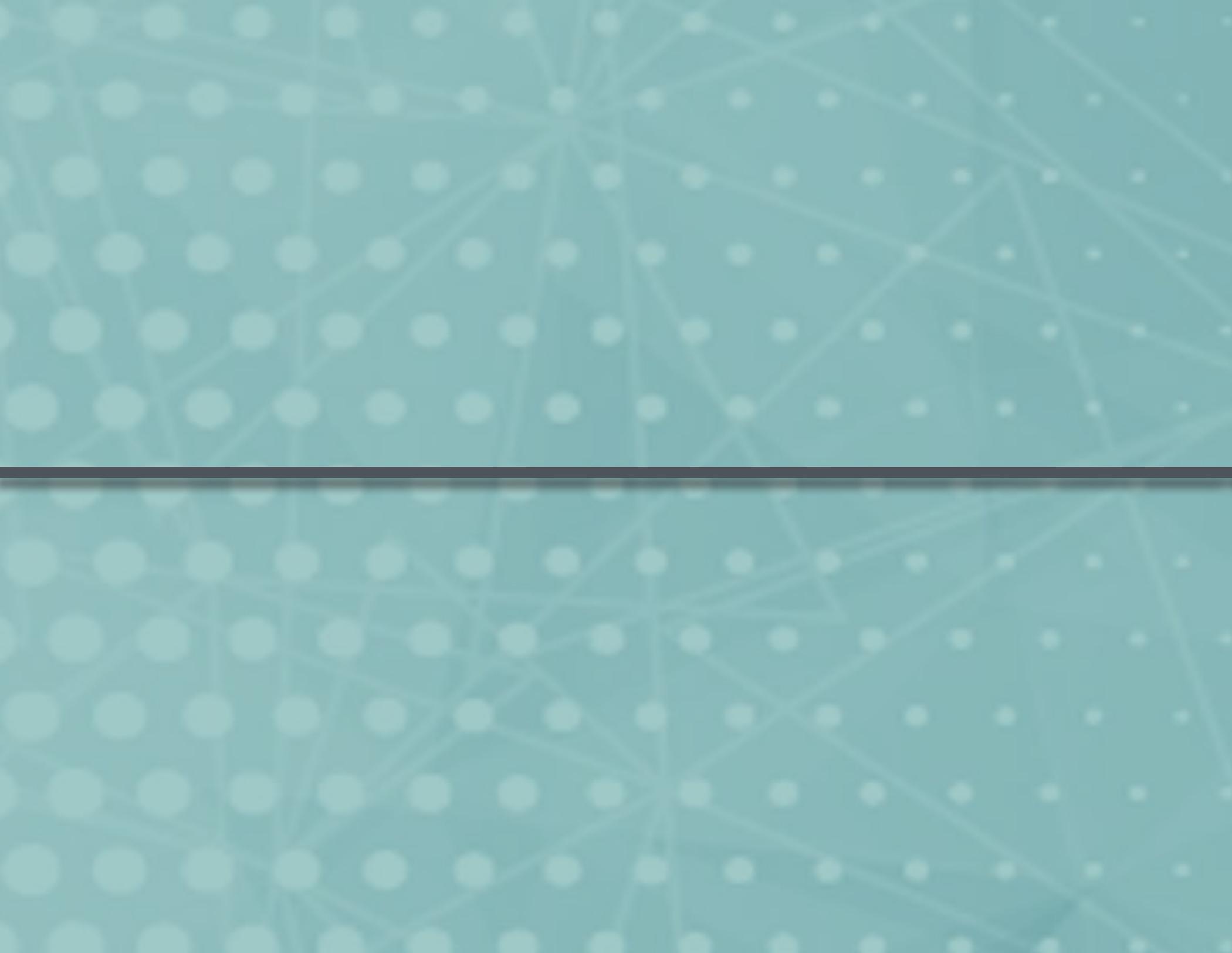
Our Southern Indiana will create a communications and engagement plan will be tailored to our multiple generations and diverse cultural, demographic, socioeconomic, and geographic backgrounds. One message or one way of communicating will not work to engage the public with the RDA or throughout the READI process. Equally important, our region also understands that we cannot engage those who live and work in our region today as well as the new residents, businesses, and new visitors we will attract without crafting a consistent brand and image. Regional Marketing and Branding was one of the RDA-led initiatives outlined in Our Region | Our Plan that is important as our region pursues READI.

Branding is simply a way of clearly highlighting what makes the region different from, and more desirable than other areas. Without an identity or brand, a unique place can struggle to gain the critical mass of support it needs to succeed.

Multiple messages to each of our region's diverse audiences will be crafted and multiple tools will be developed for providing updated and accurate information and seeking input. A detailed plan will also be adopted prior to READI beginning that, at a minimum, outlines:

1. How the RDA will communicate and engage with each project partner and the larger public; and
2. The minimum communication and public engagement requirements that each project or program must complete prior to implementation.

The RDA will provide oversight on the communications and engagement plan through its professional staff to ensure our region is talking and engaging. Our goal is to have residents and businesses asking about READI as well as having projects and programs that are informed by public input rather than completed behind closed doors.



# 5

CHAPTER FIVE

## OUR Vision

OUR

# OUR Vision

**By recognizing the value in having diverse people, places, and perspectives, the five counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington seek to work together to cultivate a region that:**

- **Nurtures a diverse economy with thriving industries;**
- **Collaborates to improve efficiencies, attitudes, and perceptions; and**
- **Provides exceptional infrastructure, community services, recreational amenities, and neighborhoods for all.**

Our Southern Indiana's vision was initially defined in the 2015 Regional Economic Development Plan and is outlined in *Chapter 5: Our Future Vision of Our Region | Our Plan*. ***But this vision wasn't something just created for a plan – it's a vision that started with grassroots efforts and local plans.***

***Our vision speaks to who we are as local communities, as residents of Kentuckiana (as we like to call it), and as Hoosiers. It represents our neighbors, our families, and our people.*** Our Southern Indiana's vision builds upon our assets, our trends, our identity, and our potential. It includes our dreams, our aspirations, and our goals and defines who we are and where we want to go as a region. ***Our vision represents the aspirations of nearly 285,000 residents, the drive of 22 cities and towns and 5 counties, and the regional recognition deserved from our 1.3-million-person MSA.***

We are a region with goals centered around inclusive population growth, economic vitality, and quality of life. We have defined the direction of our collective future. *Our Region | Our Plan* is not merely a picture of what's possible, but also it is an action plan to make sure the Our Southern Indiana region can get there. ***This is OUR Southern Indiana.***

## OUR Future

While our vision may seem simple at the surface, it includes what each of us strive for daily – to create a better place and better community for tomorrow. Our vision strives for a comprehensive approach to transformation. It looks to a diverse economy with the infrastructure, services, amenities, and housing that is needed to elevate and sustain our region. But it doesn't stop there; it aspires our region to become a community in all senses – one with a supportive, diverse, and welcoming community. We cannot lose sight of our people, our sense of place, and our emotional connection to the region and each other.

Our vision includes seven goal topics and objectives to identify ways to use the various assets of the region, including people, places, skills, and organizations, to assemble the region around issues that move its members into action. This uses the community's own assets to empower stakeholders by encouraging them to utilize what they already possess. We will leverage our existing assets and regional trends to become a benchmark that other regions nationally look to become.

Our Southern Indiana's assets and trends are central to our vision. Our tendency is to look forward with a positive outlook, but we are aware that our dreams must be rooted in reality. As our vision and goals were vetted and refined, we also considered those aspects that will move our region forward or hold us back. A critical part of planning for the future is identifying the region's existing assets and understanding what challenges the region is currently or will be facing in the future. Our region's opportunities and challenges are influenced by our assets but also inform our vision.

## OUR Assets:

Our assets are detailed in *Chapter 4 of Our Region | Our Plan* (page 139-153). Our assets that we will build upon, strive to improve, and leverage to achieve our vision over time include:

- Transportation Network
- Utilities & Infrastructure
- Economic Development and Housing Sites
- Recreation & Cultural Amenities
- Community Health

By keeping our people and our sense of community central, our vision can build upon our region's strengths and our population growth which is higher than Indiana.<sup>1</sup> With amenities and quality of place projects included in this plan, we can not only get our fair share of regional growth, we can seize the opportunity of rapid MSA growth by welcoming new Hoosiers to the state and leveraging Kentucky's investments in MSA growth. We will provide the needed education and training to support increased wages, and our economic sites will attract more than our share of job growth with wages that are on par with central Louisville. Our housing is already growing at unprecedented rates due to billions of dollars invested in our bi-state connections, such as the Ohio River Bridge project, and our home values that are more affordable than the MSA. This is Southern Indiana's moment. The potential for economic and population growth awaiting our region is greater than any other throughout the state.

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<sup>1</sup> 2010-2019 Population Growth (source ESRI Business Analyst): Indiana (3.8%), Our Southern Indiana Region (4.1%), Louisville MSA (5.3%), and United States (6.3%). 2010-2019 Employment Growth (source Woods and Poole/Department of Commerce): Our Southern Indiana Region (13.2%), Indiana (13.7%), Louisville MSA (17.4%), and United States (17.9%).



**TRANSPORTATION  
NETWORK**



**UTILITIES &  
INFRASTRUCTURE**



**ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT &  
HOUSING SITES**



**RECREATION  
& CULTURAL  
AMENITIES**



**COMMUNITY  
HEALTH**

# **Our Assets**

Community

1 mile from  
Louisville

Ohio River

Growth

Schools

Quality of  
Place and Life

Tourism

Diversity

**STRENGTH**

Connectivity  
Outside of  
Urban Areas

Flooding Along  
Ohio River

Lack of  
Workforce  
Housing

Aging  
Population

**WEAKNESS**

Regional  
Trails and  
Destinations

Natural  
Environment

Job Attraction

Lower Cost of  
Living

Entertainment

Talent  
Attraction

Housing  
Growth

**OPPORTUNITY**

Sewer  
Capacity

Workforce  
Housing

Utilities

Broadband  
Access

**THREAT**

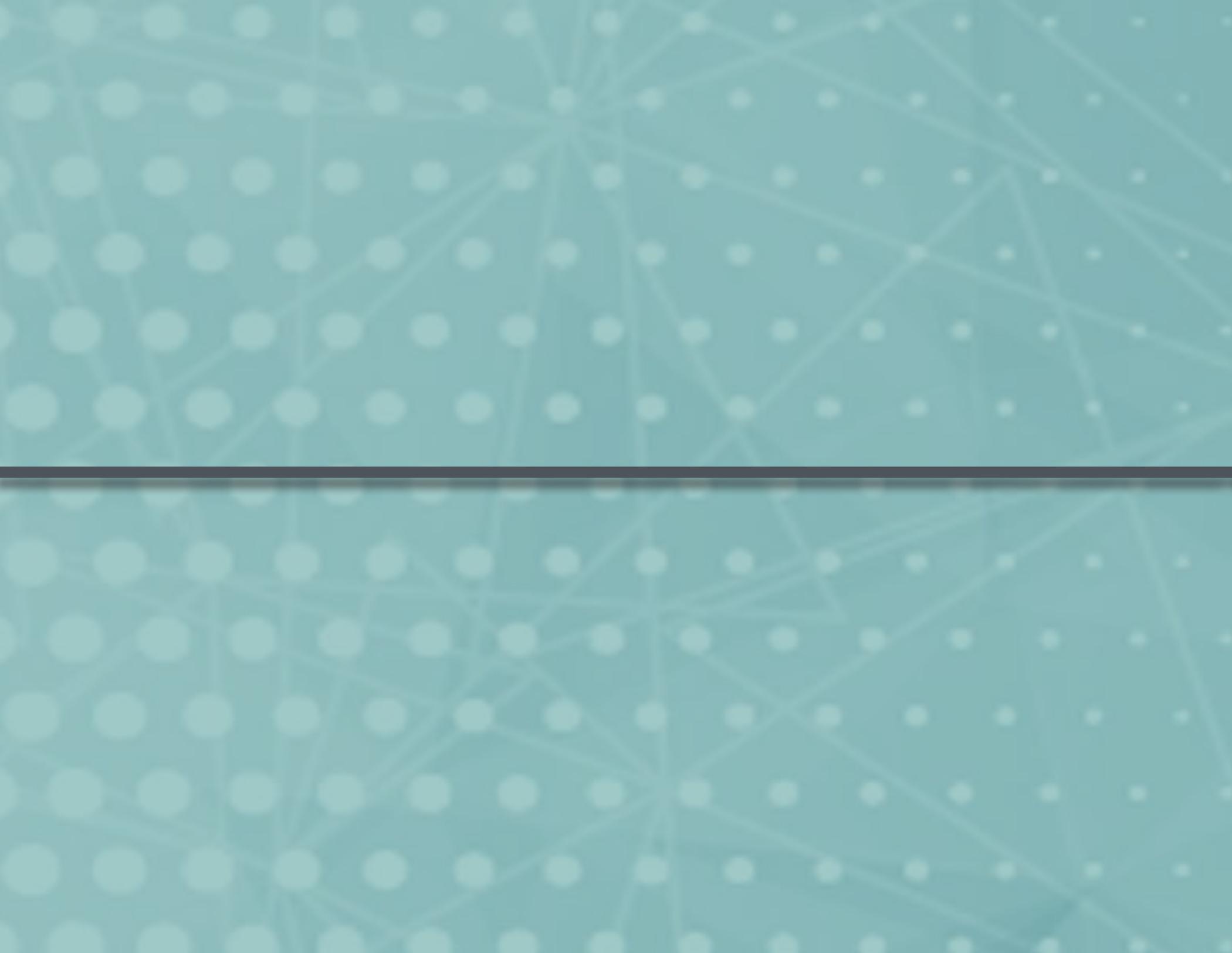


JEFFERSONVILLE

"Be honest, take care of your people,  
and give to the community."  
-George E. Hughes, Sr.



JEFFERSONVILLE



# 6

CHAPTER SIX

## OUR Trends

OUR



Our Southern Indiana can leverage national, regional, and local trends to achieve our overarching goals of population growth, economic vitality, and quality of life. Long-term demographic, economic, and cultural trends will have a large impact on Southern Indiana's future. How this region responds to and leverages these trends will determine the future growth and quality of life within this region. National trends include population growth in metropolitan areas, growth in urban cores, aging populations, and changes in the economy toward innovative and technological industries. These trends place a greater importance on quality of place, amenities, and natural resources, and they will have major implications for housing and retail real estate through a greater demand for walkable, urban, and mixed-use environments.

## **OUR Trends**

Our region's most significant trends are detailed in *Chapter 4 of Our Region | Our Plan (pages 155-189)* and a summary is provided in this section. Our trends will be leveraged along with our assets to overcome our region's challenges and capitalize upon our opportunities. Our trends that we will capitalize upon to achieve our vision over time include:

1. Population Growth
2. Median Age
3. Employment & Jobs
4. Wages & Earning Differential
5. Job Opportunities Requiring Education
6. Housing Growth
7. Connectivity for Commuting

**Our region is part of a 1.3-million-person MSA with over 830,000 jobs where both population growth is outpacing Indiana and employment growth is outpacing both the state and nation.**<sup>1</sup> We are already attracting our “fair share” of new residents and new jobs, but our region is uniquely positioned in two significant ways to grow our economy and population. READI will position our region to attract an even larger share of the national economic opportunities, and our region can also attract jobs and residents looking to relocate within our MSA.

**The Our Southern Indiana region can welcome new Hoosiers to the state by simply bringing Kentucky residents across the river to Indiana with our lower housing costs, better access to employment nodes, and quality of life amenities.** We have seen billions of dollars invested in bridges that make it seamless to commute to and from Kentucky. People are noticing our great assets, competitive housing prices, desirable destinations, strong schools, and our culture – and as the bi-state region sees what we have to offer, it’s an easy decision to join our Hoosier family!

While wages in Our Southern Indiana are increasing, jobs in central Louisville pay, on average, 35% more than Southern Indiana jobs with the same industry classification. **We must capitalize on our increasing average wages to raise the quality of life across the board, but it is imperative that we leverage the higher wages in central Louisville that are merely one mile from our state.** We need to work to attract similar businesses to Indiana while simultaneously attracting those in-demand employees to our region as well.

**Our Southern Indiana can pull from a vast labor market, but our goal is to identify those opportunities that no one else can offer and align our local workforce with our needs.** Our region has several higher education institutions, such as Hanover College, Ivy Tech Madison, Ivy Tech Sellersburg, Indiana University Southeast, Purdue Polytechnic, and Prosser Career Education Center, in addition to numerous early education and workforce training programs. These education and training programs are desperately vital for a vibrant economy. Our region can offer broad workforce development programs but we can also align our workforce with innovative industries.

With a vibrant economy comes the need for housing growth. **Our region’s housing growth is outpacing the state and our median house value is competitive and more affordable than the larger MSA.** Within the past few years our housing options have expanded drastically – with new trendy urban apartments and condos that attract young professionals and early retirees, to quality single-family houses with outstanding schools for our workforce, to high-end housing that attracts residents with higher incomes from throughout the MSA. Many of our communities have recently revised their regulations to allow for more dense development that many young professionals prefer and allows for more affordable housing to support our workforce. The increased density also helps maintain communities with amenities reaching more people and residents searching to bond with many more of their neighbors. Providing diverse housing is merely the first step, as available housing simply puts Southern Indiana ahead of the larger region.

Our Southern Indiana isn’t just looking at our assets, opportunities, challenges, and trends and trying to paint a pretty picture. **We are acting on these things to make positive changes to move our region into the spotlight – not only within the 1.3-million-person MSA – but within the Midwest and nation.**

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<sup>1</sup> 2010-2019 Population Growth (source ESRI Business Analyst): Indiana (3.8%), Our Southern Indiana Region (4.1%), Louisville MSA (5.3%), and United States (6.3%). 2010-2019 Employment Growth (source Woods and Poole/Department of Commerce): Our Southern Indiana Region (13.2%), Indiana (13.7%), Louisville MSA (17.4%), and United States (17.9%).

# Our Trends

1

## POPULATION GROWTH

*The Southern Indiana region has a population of 284,477 and is projected to exceed Indiana's population growth with an increase of 2.7% in total population by 2026.*

2

## MEDIAN AGE

*Between 2010 and 2021, the median age for residents in the Our Southern Indiana has increased from 38.1 to 40.4 and is projected to increase to 41.8 by 2026.*

3

## EMPLOYMENT & JOBS

*Since the 2008 recession, employment in the region has increased by approximately 2% annually, a rate that outpaces both the state of Indiana and the nation.*

4

## WAGES & EARNINGS

*While wages in Our Southern Indiana are increasing, jobs in central Louisville pay, on average, 35% more than Southern Indiana jobs with the same industry classification.*

5

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

*The number of those earning an Associate or Bachelor Degree is increasing in Our Southern Indiana.*

6

## HOUSING GROWTH

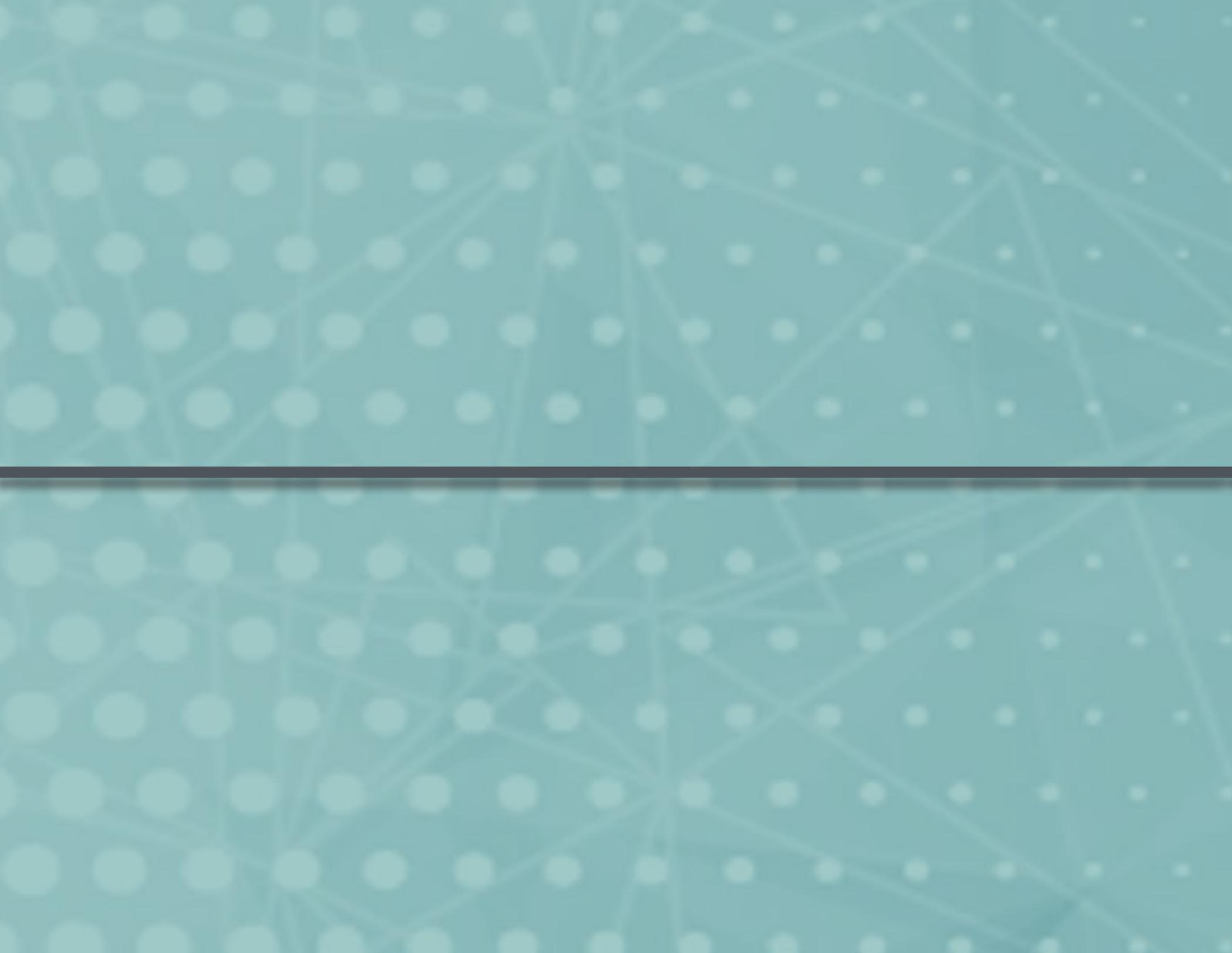
*Between 2010 and 2021, the Our Southern Indiana region's housing growth is outpacing the state and our median house value is competitive and more affordable than the larger MSA.*

7

## CONNECTIVITY

*Recent investment in bridge work has greatly improved connectivity to/from the Louisville Metropolitan area.*

*More than 30,000 workers, approximately 25% of the workforce, commute from the Southern Indiana RDA region to the Louisville metro area in Kentucky. Conversely, Southern Indiana businesses draw more than 12,000 individuals from Kentucky.*



# 7

CHAPTER SEVEN

## OUR Goals & Outcomes

OUR



## DESTINATIONS

Create and nurture great destinations for present and future residents and visitors.



## WORKFORCE & ENTREPRENEURISM

Align education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and ensure that the region's workforce adequately fulfills the employment opportunities available within the region.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

Pursue catalytic development that spurs investment in the region's jobs, housing, public spaces, and infrastructure.



## NATURAL ASSETS

Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural features and environmentally sensitive areas.



## CONNECTIONS & GATEWAYS

Enhance connections throughout the local communities, counties, and broader region by improving safety, function, and efficiencies for all modes of transportation including vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, rail, intermodal, freight, and aviation networks.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensure that the region's utility infrastructure systems respect and protect the area's natural resources while providing high-quality, efficient, and effective services to current and future residents and businesses.



## GOVERNMENT

Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies, and local government.

# Our Priorities

Our Southern Indiana has a clear picture of our future; this isn't just something quickly thrown together without critical thought about the outcomes that are part of that vision. We know our priorities, we know our direction, and we know what outcomes we must achieve. We will use our assets and trends to build upon our region's identity and vision. This is our future – our region – and we cannot be stopped!

## **OUR Priorities, OUR Goals**

Our region has defined seven priorities, or goals, as outlined in *Chapter 5 of Our Region | Our Plan (see pages 192-203)*. These aren't just lofty ideas we are striving for as a region; our priority statements represent deliberate direction that Our Southern Indiana region can and will achieve together. These goals are a comprehensive approach to diverse economic and population growth that will not fall flat by merely addressing one or two aspects of our dynamic economy.

## OUR Outcomes

Our vision for the future cannot end with goals alone. We must further define the direction our region has established by identifying the outcomes we will not only plan for, but also the outcomes we will make a reality. Realistic and clear outcomes show how our communities, our businesses, and our people are better tomorrow than they are today.

Our region has identified specific outcomes that are needed to realize our vision and priorities. These outcomes are directly linked to national and regional trends as well as our assets, opportunities, and challenges that exist today, and we will use these outcomes to measure our success compared to our benchmark regions (see 10: OUR Success Metrics). Our Outcomes will include:



## OUR Benchmark Regions

Not only do we want to compare our progress on how we leverage our current trends, we want to see how our region “moves the needle” compared to our MSA, state, and specific benchmark regions. **Our Southern Indiana has complex factors that make our region so different than other Indiana regions.** We have a heritage as a river city that saw development when trade was dominated by river travel. Our region lies along the largest river system in the nation with billions of dollars in recent and current investments for bridges. We are part of a major metropolitan area with the largest city, Louisville, only one mile away. But unlike Kentucky, our region isn’t defined by only one city – we are a collection of communities each with a different personality. Because of these complex factors, we cannot compare ourselves to just any region. **To gauge our success, we look to similar regions that are making major moves, creating positive change, and achieving their visions.**



Northern Kentucky

Our benchmark regions include the following:

1. Northern Kentucky (Cincinnati metro area);
2. Southern Illinois (St. Louis metro area); and
3. Vancouver, Washington (Portland metro area).

These three benchmark regions were selected because of their similarities to Our Southern Indiana and their varying levels of success. They are all major river cities in multi-state, growing metro areas where the principal city and largest cluster of jobs is on the opposite side of the river and in a different state. Northern Kentucky is geographically close and also located on the Ohio River, just 100 miles upstream from Our Southern Indiana.



Southern Illinois

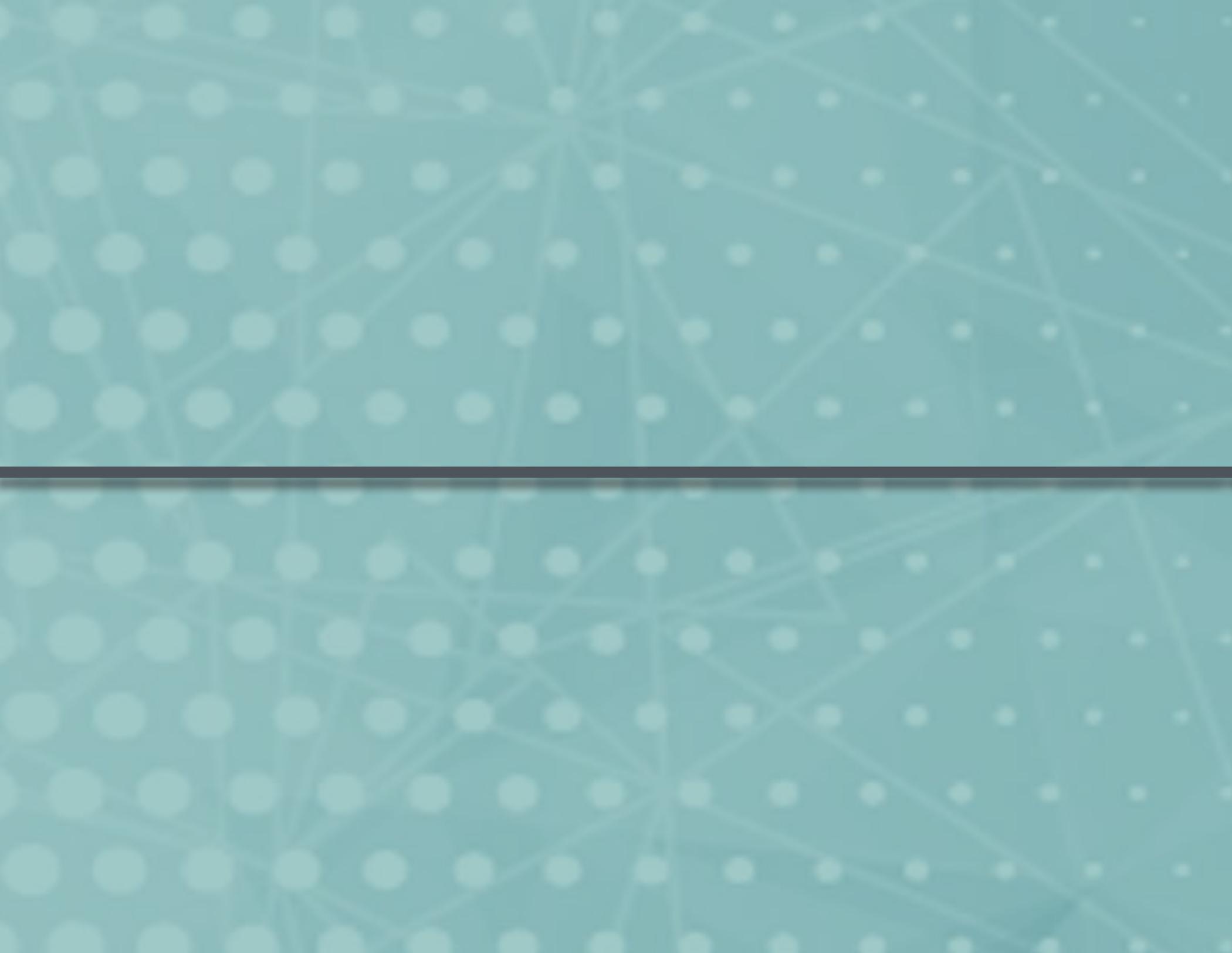
But these benchmark regions weren’t only selected because they similar to our region. We, as a region, need to strive to overcome obstacles and position ourselves as a national leader. **We cannot and will not compare our region to those we are already outperforming; this only paints a forged picture of our success. Our region has a bold vision and a bold vision requires bold actions.**

All three of the benchmark regions are larger than Our Southern Indiana with at least double the population, with two benchmark regions significantly outpacing our region in population growth. They are generally attracting younger families and are home to a more educated workforce. The job growth in the benchmark regions is trending faster than Our Southern Indiana with slightly higher per capita incomes. **Our Southern Indiana isn’t striving to be average. We intend to be a national leader in economic development through population and job growth, and true success can only be measured by comparing ourselves to those that have already achieved many of the outcomes we are striving to achieve.**



Vancouver, Washington

Our progress and measurements of our success will lie with our region’s progress to further our seven trends as compared to our benchmark regions. **We do not want to just move the needle slightly – our goal is to outpace these benchmark regions as we implement our vision.**



# 8

CHAPTER EIGHT

## OUR Strategies to Achieve Our Vision

OUR



BORDEN TOWN HALL  
COMMUNITY CENTER

ICE DEPT. STREET DEPT. SEWER DEPT.

We are  
READY!

Each of our priority statements define a broad direction for our region. Strategies are needed to support each priority, or goal, and they help to better define our region's direction. Our strategies also provide a sense of who we will be as a region, drive excitement, and provide insight into what our region will look like as well as, how our region will function together.

## OUR Strategies

Our region sees the importance of the five focus areas that were identified within READI guidelines including Quality of Place & Life; Quality of Opportunity; Innovation; Entrepreneurship; and Talent Attraction & Development. Our strategies were not crafted based on this specific funding program; they were created in 2019 based on the needs, desires, and aspirations of our businesses, local officials, and community leaders on behalf of the almost 285,000 residents in our region. The five focus areas of IEDC can be found as common themes throughout our strategies, including:

- From our quality of place in the region's small towns, urban centers, and gateways to improving our quality of life through entertainment, competitive schools, high-skill and high-wage jobs, and natural features, our strategies reflect the importance of providing a high quality of place and quality of life to attract new residents and businesses and to retain our existing citizens and corporations.
- Quality of opportunity can take on many forms. ***Our region understands that diversity and equity are important elements of each of our communities*** and we have a responsibility to lift everyone in our region up with strategies to expand access to affordable housing, broadband, utilities, education, transportation, and small business and entrepreneur assistance. ***Our strategies also provide opportunity for economic growth through high-wage jobs, redevelopment of blighted sites, and livable neighborhoods.***
- Resilient economies seek innovation in order to adapt and respond easily to changes. ***Our strategies strive to bring innovative technologies and industries to our economic hubs, the fastest and most reliable broadband technologies to our residents and businesses, and state-of-the-art thinking to our workforce.***
- Small businesses are the backbone of the country and our region. ***Our strategies support small business development and entrepreneurs in starting, expanding, and sustaining their business by providing a culture that supports entrepreneurship and spaces where ideas can be developed and thrive.***
- Almost every strategy of our region supports talent attraction and development. From creating complete workplaces, livable neighborhoods, and vibrant downtowns where people want to live and work to investing in education and training that attracts high-skill and high-wage jobs, to supporting regional destinations and entertainment options – ***the fundamental principle our region is striving for is population growth through talent attraction, and this cannot be successful without creating desirable places to live and work.***



## DESTINATIONS

### GOAL:

---

Create and nurture great destinations for present and future residents and visitors.

### STRATEGIES:

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- Enhancing Downtown and Small-Town Quality of Place
- Promoting Unique Visitor Experiences
- Expanding Regional Entertainment Offerings



## WORKFORCE & ENTREPRENEURISM

### GOAL:

---

Align education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and ensure that the region's workforce adequately fulfills the employment opportunities available within the region.

### STRATEGIES:

---

- Investing in Higher Education and Research
- Supporting Quality Schools to Enhance Competitiveness
- Creating a Nurturing Environment for Entrepreneurs
- Developing Complete Workplaces
- Supporting the Viability of Agricultural Businesses in the Region
- Attracting High-Skill, High-Wage Jobs



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING SITES

### GOAL:

---

Pursue catalytic development that spurs investment in the region's **QUALITY** jobs, housing, public spaces, and infrastructure.

### STRATEGIES:

---

- Transforming Underutilized Sites into Community Anchors
- Repositioning Regional Retail Centers
- Creating Active, Vital Downtown Destinations
- Enhancing Livability of Existing and Future Neighborhoods
- Forming Economic Growth Hubs



## NATURAL ASSETS

### GOAL:

---

Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural features and environmentally sensitive areas.

### STRATEGIES:

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- Developing a World-Class Greenway System
- Transforming the Ohio River
- Promoting the Region's Natural Features and Destinations
- Recognizing and Build Upon Our Agricultural Heritage



## CONNECTIONS & GATEWAYS

### GOAL:

---

Enhance connections throughout the local communities, counties, and broader region by improving safety, function, and efficiencies for all modes of transportation including vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, rail, intermodal, freight, and aviation networks.

### STRATEGIES:

---

- Connecting Infrastructure to Strategic Industries
- Strengthening Transit to Expand Access to Opportunity
- Providing Complete, Livable Streets
- Developing Gateways that Welcome and Market to Visitors



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### GOAL:

---

Ensure that the region's utility infrastructure systems respect and protect the area's natural resources while providing high-quality, efficient, and effective services to current and future residents and businesses.

### STRATEGIES:

---

- Upgrading Critical Infrastructure
- Providing Universal Access to High-Speed internet and Wi-Fi services
- Developing Regional Solutions to Water Supply Challenges



# GOVERNMENT

**GOAL:**

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Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies, and local government.

**STRATEGIES:**

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- Coordinating Public Services
- Pursuing Cross-Jurisdictional Partnerships



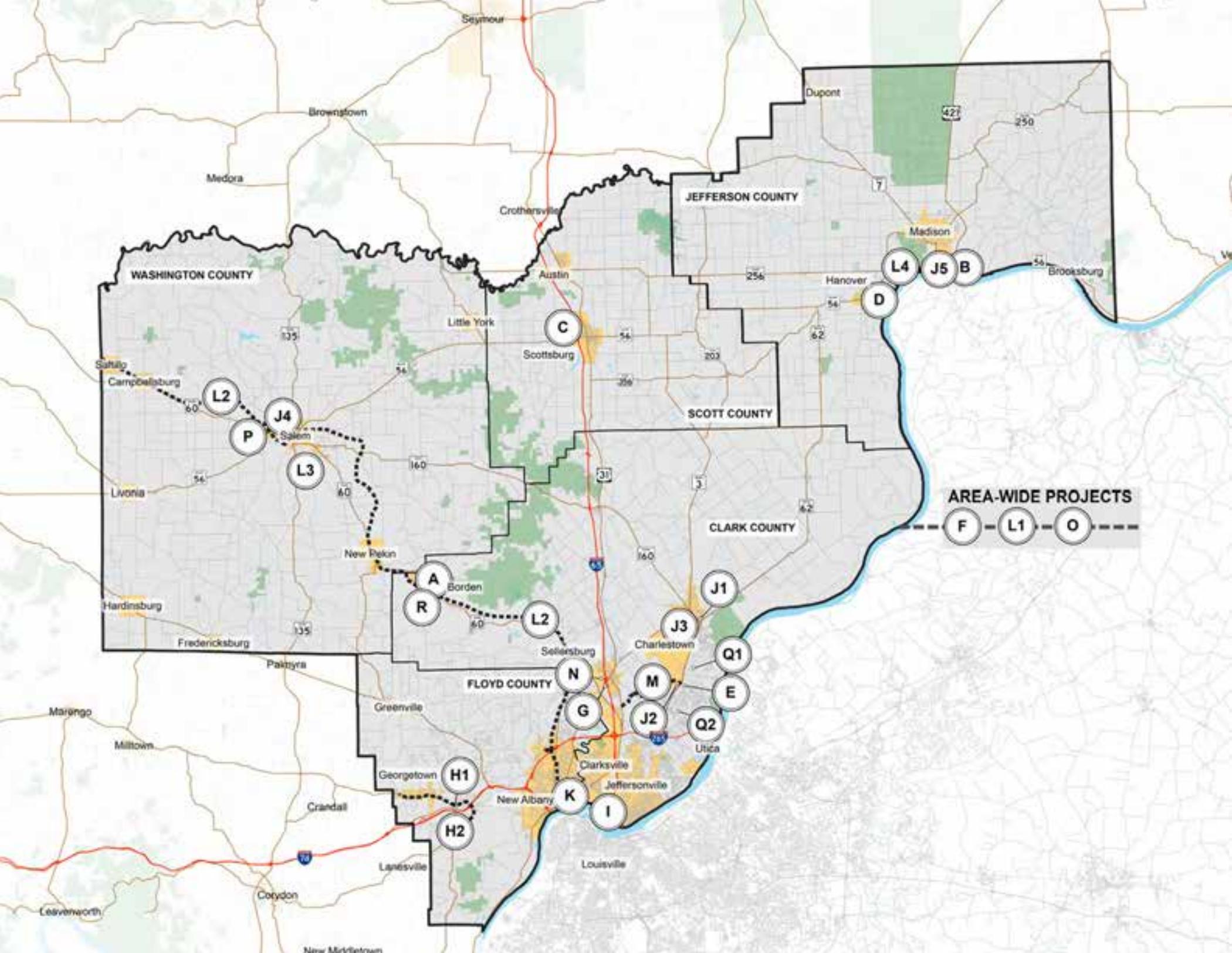
## OUR Projects and Programs

Our Southern Indiana has identified and prioritized the 62 projects and programs that are needed to comprehensively approach economic development and population growth. These projects and programs are detailed on pages 210-276 of *Our Region | Our Plan*. Each project and/or program is organized by the leadership that is needed from the RDA – as a Project Leader, as a Project Partner, or as a Project Supporter. While functional in the most basic sense, the project organization allows the RDA to focus on those projects that should be led by the RDA and the projects where the RDA is a critical partner in the implementation.

Our Southern Indiana knows the most difficult part of a planning process isn't identifying the projects, it's figuring out what should and will be done first to cascade success for projects that follow. We know that all projects are driven to some extent by fiscal, geographic, and political pressures, and the RDA can provide the needed regional perspective in those discussions. From the current 62 projects and programs that are included in *Our Region | Our Plan*, the RDA has already looked at the critical need and the phases of each project that will create the momentum needed to carry the project through implementation.

Using our adopted scorecard, the RDA evaluated and ranked all of the projects and identified the 18 projects that are most critical to our region's success. These projects are not only READI to move now, they will create the momentum, excitement, inclusiveness, and leverage needed to catapult many of our remaining projects forward as well. These 18 projects will create the greatest return on our investment and the largest long-term impacts. Our Southern Indiana can and has demonstrated the region's ability to make the difficult decision of determining which projects should be implemented first if READI funding is awarded and ensuring that each of these projects addresses our plan's goals and strategies.

Our projects and programs are detailed in this chapter and organized by our region's goals and strategies.



### DESTINATIONS

- A. Star Valley Destinations - Tourism Events Center & Muddy Fork Reservoir
- B. Destination Madison Quality of Place Projects
- C. Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex at Scott County

### WORKFORCE & ENTREPRENEURISM

- D. Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College & Ivy Tech Madison
- E. River Ridge Learning Center Early Childhood Education & Workforce Development Initiative
- F. The ONE Fund - Entrepreneurial Support
- G. Family Scholar House & Ivy Tech Sellersburg Initiative

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

- H. Novaparke Innovation Corridor
- I. South Clarksville's Riverfront - Mixed Use Redevelopment
- J. Workforce Housing - Infrastructure & Property Acquisition
  - J1. Depot Street Revitalization Housing*
  - J2. The Landings at River Ridge*
  - J3. Market Street Commons*
  - J4. Shelby Street Housing*
  - J5. The Scott Block Lofts*

### NATURAL ASSETS

- K. Origin Park, Phase I
- L. Regional Trails Initiative
  - L1. Regional Trails Align Master Plan*
  - L2. South Monon Freedom Trail*
  - L3. Lake Salinda Trail Connection & Bath House*
  - L4. Hanover-Madison Connector Trail*

### CONNECTIONS & GATEWAYS

- M. Commerce Connector (River Ridge to US 31)
- N. Sellersburg Town Center District

### INFRASTRUCTURE

- O. Regional Broadband Readiness Plan
- P. Salem Municipal Airport Hanger & Fueling Improvements
- Q. Wastewater Capacity at River Ridge
  - Q1. Charlestown Wastewater Capacity Expansion*
  - Q2. Jeffersonville North Wastewater Capacity Expansion*
- R. Star Valley Destinations - Wastewater Capacity for Residents & Tourism

# Our Projects



## DESTINATIONS

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Town of Borden

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Wood Township of Clark County, and Clark County Government, Friends of Borden Community Park, Muddy Fork Conservancy, Borden Lions Club, and Wood-Carr Foundation, Borden Tri-County Water Company

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Muddy Fork Work Plan I-IV (1964, 1967, 1972, 1993)*
- *Muddy Fork Geomorphic Study (1984)*
- *Muddy Fork Environmental Impact Statement (1993)*
- *Muddy Fork Archaeology (2011-2015)*
- *Muddy Fork Purpose and Need Study (2018)*
- *Muddy Fork Geomorphic Study (2020)*
- *Borden 5-Year Park & Recreation Master Plan*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT A

# Star Valley Destinations

*Tourism Events Center & Muddy Fork Reservoir*

**Construct the Star Valley Event Center to support tourism and regional events as well permitting of Muddy Fork Reservoir that will provide a connection between the South Monon Freedom Trail and Deam Lake/Clark Forest.**

Star Valley is in the valley just north of Starlight, Indiana and the two areas are connected by Star Valley Way, which is a scenic hillside road, with stunning views, that was the largest single road project in the state of Indiana conducted by INDOT.

Starlight sits on a plateau at the top of the hill and is home to Borden's existing tourism sites: Huber's Orchard, Winery & Vineyards; and Joe Huber's Family Farm and Restaurant. Starlight will also be home to the planned Quadrant Hotel and several planned residential development sites.

Star Valley is at the base of the hill at the end of Star Valley Way where three large commercial development sites are located. Borden Community Park is a beautiful, pristine park that borders these development sites on the north side; and the development site for Muddy Fork Reservoir, a planned 189-acre lake, borders Borden Community Park on its north side; and Clark Forest, a 24,000-acre state forestry, borders Muddy Fork Reservoir site on its north

side. And finally, just a few miles southeast of Star Valley is Deam Lake State Recreation Area, which includes a 194-acre lake.

This robust offering of amenities has been designated the recreation region in the Star Valley Destinations portfolio (<http://www.starvalleydestinations.com>).

The Star Valley Event Center is a planned multi-purpose facility that will sit on the south side of Borden Community Park next to an amphitheater that is currently under construction. The Event Center will include internal/external restrooms, a kitchen/concessions area, a tourism office, and an event/meeting space.

Together, the Event Center and Outdoor Amphitheater will support a calendar of year-round indoor and outdoor events. These include festivals and other annual events as well as weekly events like the weekly Borden Sunshine Gang meeting. The Borden Sunshine Gang is the largest and most successful senior program in southern Indiana.

- A** Dog Park
- B** Playground & Spray Ground
- C** Additional Baseball Field
- D** High School Softball Field
- E** Additional Parking
- F** Footbridge Across Muddy Fork Creek
- G** Multi-Purpose Stage/Performance Venue
- H** Open Lawn/Event Space
- I** Walking/Biking Trail
- J** Existing Baseball Fields
- K** Existing Basketball Court
- L** Soccer Fields
- M** Small Trailhead
- N** Future Connection to Muddy Fork Conservation Area
- O** Concession Stand & Restroom

The Muddy Fork Reservoir project is already in flight. The reservoir is intended to be a natural asset, a recreational destination, a local water source, and a regional emergency water source.

The Muddy Fork Conservancy has invested \$2,292,141 on real estate, mitigation, etc. and has directed spending for a \$645,000 federal grant. That said, the Muddy Fork Board of Directors has hit a snag in obtaining Army Corps of Engineers permitting and we are seeking READI assistance to overcome this obstacle.

The combination of twin lakes, a forestry, walking and biking trails in every direction, commercial shops, events and entertainment, a winery, restaurants, agritourism, a museum, and more will give the region a wide range of tourism appeal.

Our aim is to make Starlight and Star Valley a regional, and eventually national, tourism destination. We have a dynamic vision and the drive necessary to achieve that goal.

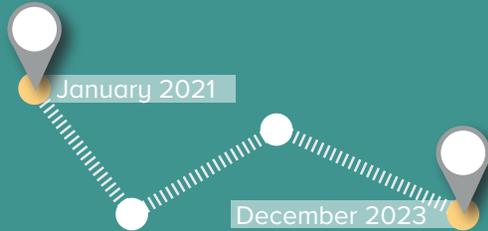




## DESTINATIONS

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECTED TIMELINE



#### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

##### *Entity Responsible for Maintenance:*

- Town of Borden
- Borden Parks Board
- Muddy Fork Conservancy
- Friends of Borden Community Park

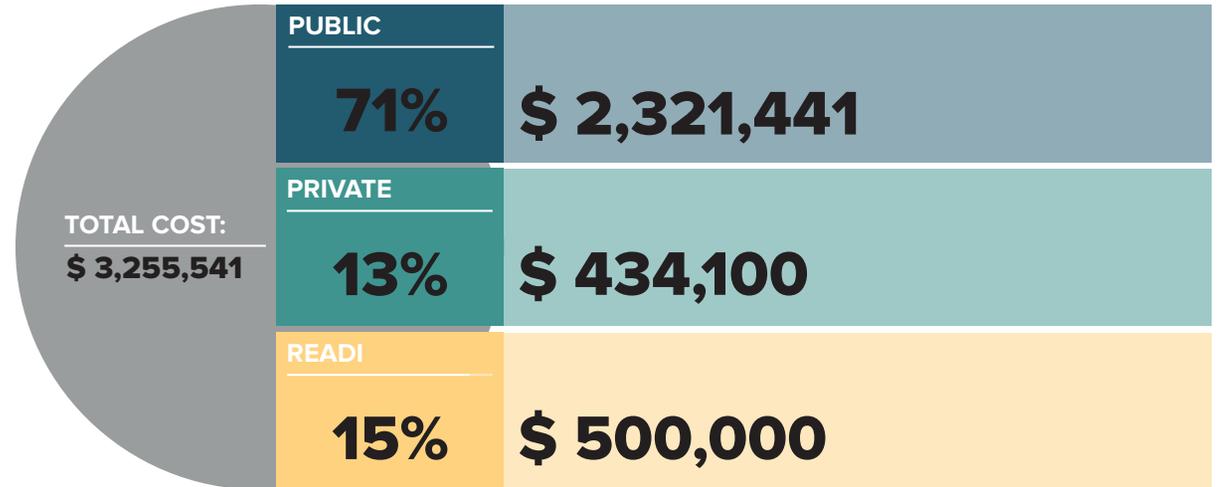
##### *Future Funding Sources:*

- Operational Revenues
- Muddy Fork Conservancy
- Town of Borden

READI PROJECT A

# Star Valley Destinations

*Tourism Events Center & Muddy Fork Reservoir*



#### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Town of Borden Borden Parks Board Muddy Fork Conservancy
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Friends of Borden Community Park
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$1,019,192**  
in new tax revenue



**\$5,157,674**  
economic output and  
impact



**80**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$1,248,777**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

---

- ✓ Increase length of stay for existing visitors to Starlight attractions.
- ✓ Provide additional amenities and events to attract new visitors.
- ✓ Provide a launch point for future commercial tourism offerings in Star Valley.
- ✓ Enhance small town/rural economic development and jobs creation.
- ✓ Strengthen brand recognition as a regional, and then national, tourism hub.

## PROJECT READINESS

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- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Design Complete/Ready to Bid



## DESTINATIONS

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- City of Madison

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Friends of the Ohio Theatre, Madison riverfront Development Committee and Private Developer

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Strategic Investment Plan for Stellar Communities*
- *Comprehensive Plan*
- *American Best Communities Revitalization Plan*
- *Center for Business and Economic Research*
- *Pro Circuit Economy*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT B

# Destination Madison

*Quality of Place Projects*

**Build projects that make Madison a regional destination and improve the quality of place, including the Mulberry Street Arts Corridor and Neighborhood Market, Indiana Music City Amphitheater, and the Milton Madison Bridge Gateway followed by the Ohio Theatre and the Riverfront Super Overlook.**

The Mulberry Street Arts Corridor and Neighborhood Market will be an investment in the arts which is a strong indicator of quality of life. This project will be saving one of the region's most intact early 19th century commercial blocks. This project will be a multi-use property which includes parking, landscaping, greenspace, and seating. This project will encourage private investment such as the Central Hotel, which new owners plan to invest approximately \$5 million into the restoration. The building that sits on the south-west corner of this corridor will be used to create a Neighborhood Market.

Music and Arts are a large economic generator. The Madison Music Movement is attracting a collection of musicians and songwriters around the area. These artists need an outdoor stage and the Indiana Music City Amphitheater will bring in opportunities for investment and new experiences for our residents. This project will complete the plans from 2009 for the city's Bicentennial Park, located at the corner of Vaughn Drive and West Street. The project will create the only outdoor music venue in Jefferson County. The plans are already created, the space is available, and the infrastructure is in place to make this project happen.

The Madison-Milton Bridge Gateway and Illumination project is a private-public partnership that enhances Madison's riverfront. The addition of state-of-the-art color changing LED lights, with a controllable WiFi system, will bring thousands of tourists to our region. In addition to the illumination project, the City of Madison will be transforming its newly acquired properties at the foot of the bridge, into a small welcome center and will increase the curb appeal by adding landscaping, properly maintained asphalt parking lot, and a park-like setting across the new welcome sign. This project will enhance the gateway into Indiana and the region.

### Future Phases of Projects

The Madison Coal Property will be converted to a higher-end multi-family/condos consisting of 20 units in a three-story building. This will be a highly sought-after development offered through an RFP to attract private development.

The Ohio Theatre is located two blocks north of Bicentennial Park on Madison's Main Street. The closing of this theatre has created deficiency in our regions designated indoor space, which showcases arts and culture. The renovated multi-purpose venue will feature an ADA accessible performance hall complete with removal chairs, second story balcony for increased seating capacity, and multi-use private event rooms. Once completed, the Ohio Theatre will contribute an annual impact of \$750,000 in sales, \$150,000 in new earnings, and provide four new full-time jobs with seven part-time jobs. The restoration of this historic structure will also eliminate a blight on Madison's historic Main Street, which is a commercial district.

The Riverfront Super Overlook will be a versatile venue that could be used year around at the site. This multipurpose venue could be used for concerts, weddings, wedding pictures, bass tournaments, car shows, festivals, and daily use by residents and visitors. The Super Overlook, a private-public partnership, is more than a tourist attraction and entertainment venue. It is a major economic development project which includes infrastructure improvement, increased building supply employment, and increased tax revenue. This will enhance Madison's tourism port area as well.

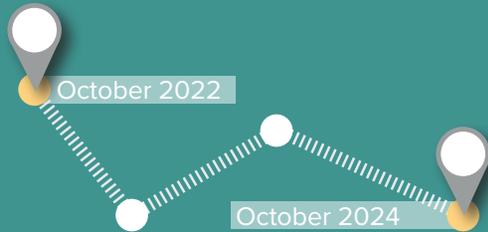




## DESTINATIONS

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECTED TIMELINE



#### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

City of Madison

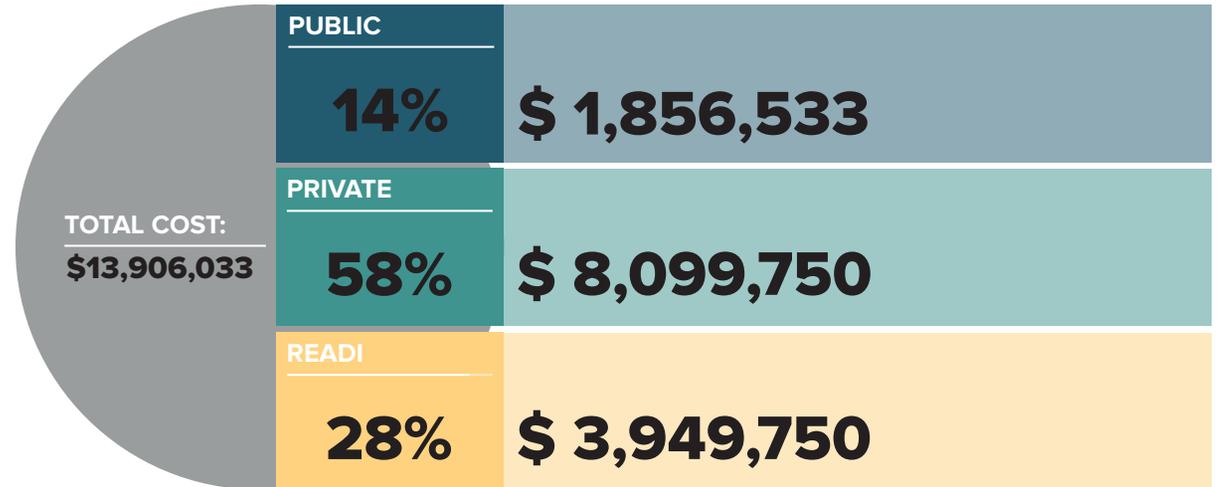
**Future Funding Sources:**

City of Madison Maintenance Budget

READI PROJECT B

# Destination Madison

Quality of Place Projects



#### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	City of Madison Madison Redevelopment Commission
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Central Hotel Private Grocery Store`
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Ohio Theatre	\$4,474,088
Riverfront Super Overlook	\$2,010,000
Madison Coal Property Redevelopment	\$5,509,650

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$6,124,513**  
in new tax revenue



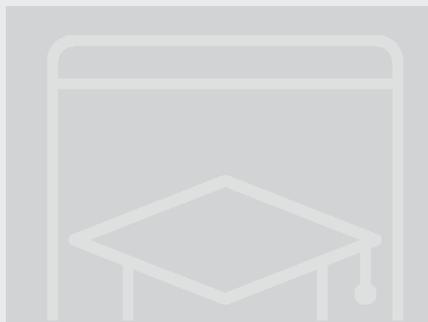
**\$28,420,100**  
in economic output



**495**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$6,638,335**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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-  Create and nurture great destinations
-  Pursue catalytic developments that spurs investment
-  Preserve the region's natural and cultural features
-  Increase our quality of place
-  Promote economic spending and population growth

## PROJECT READINESS

---

-  Control of Property
-  Properly Zoned
-  Private Developer Commitment
-  Preliminary Design Complete



## DESTINATIONS

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Scott County

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- City of Austin, City of Scottsburg, Scott County School District 1, Scott County School District 2, Scott County Community Foundation, Scott County Family YMCA, Scott County Visitors Commission

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Scott County Community Foundation's 2020 Forward Together Community Needs Assessment*
- *2015 Assessment of Needs and Priorities in Clark and Floyd Counties*
- *Scott County Vision Plan*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT C

# Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex

*at Scott County*

**Create a sports complex with improved quality of life and quality of place amenities with the ultimate goal to provide opportunities for youth, enhance quality of place, and increase population in Southern Indiana.**

The goal of the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex is to provide a regional destination for youth recreational sports, comprised of indoor and outdoor facilities. The complex will not only attract visitors to our region for competitive tournaments, but will act as a gateway for tourism in Southern Indiana, showcasing the natural assets of state parks, trails, lakes, and Ohio River waterfront that our region offers.

With easy access to I-65 and centrally located within the Southern Indiana region, Scott County is an ideal location for a youth sports complex. With 60 million participants and a \$19 billion market, youth sports nationwide gives youth and families the opportunity to engage in recreation, healthy activities, and entertainment during non-school hours. The creation of the youth sports complex will address recommended strategies regarding youth, healthy activities, and recreational facilities that were published from Community Needs Assessments conducted in Clark, Floyd, and Scott counties. This is especially important because all but one county in our region ranks above the state average for percent of physically inactive adults. In particular, Scott County ranks #92 out of 92 counties in Indiana for health outcomes and

health factors. Many schools in our region do not have sufficient facilities and could benefit from the complex. The youth sports complex can not only become a part of a community development program, but can also provide quality programs and affordability for community resident use. The complex could be used for corporate team-building events, family fun nights, craft fairs, games and leagues, and much more. Inclement weather won't be a barrier to participation by having an indoor facility.

During breaks in tournaments, families can enjoy visiting destinations in the entire region, which is home to five state parks/recreational areas, Ohio River waterfront, proposed Origin Park, and numerous lakes and trails. These areas and other destinations would allow visitors to participate in healthy activities, and attract potential residents. Through hosting regional and state tournaments, there is potential to bring millions of dollars in revenue to our region through accommodations, restaurant meals, groceries, concessions, fuel, and more. In addition, development would follow the creation of the complex, to include housing, hotels, restaurants, and more. This has great potential for the ripple effect, as each new development

will lead to the next step. With an improved quality of life and quality of place, employers that are seeking to locate to areas with a quality workforce and low cost of living can find our rural region desirable. With access to all the amenities in larger cities such as Louisville, but without the traffic, crime, and high cost of living, this project has the potential to elevate Southern Indiana to new levels.

The first phase will include outdoor baseball, softball, and soccer fields, as well as handicapped-accessible playgrounds at the North Complex; and indoor facilities with convertible basketball/volleyball/tennis/pickleball courts, soccer fields, and more at the South Complex. Future phases include expansion of the pool facilities at the YMCA along with a new splash pad area at the Central Complex; a walking/biking path connecting all three sites along with community parks; and expansion of the facilities into additional fields, courts, playgrounds, fitness path, golf simulator, larger splash pads, batting cages, and more.

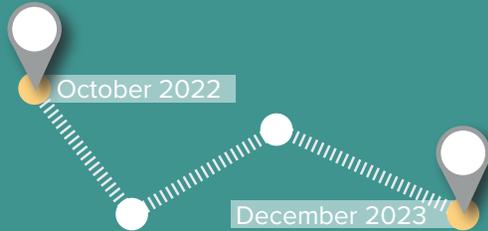




## DESTINATIONS

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECTED TIMELINE



#### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

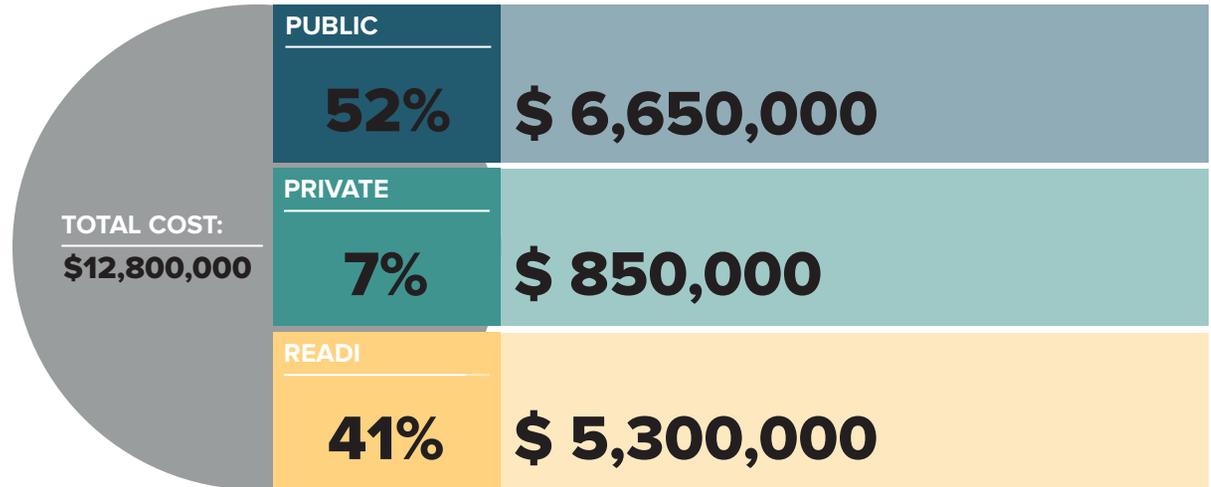
Inter-local agreement (Scott County, Scottsburg, Austin, and Scott County School Districts 1 & 2)

**Future Funding Sources:**

Scott County  
 Scottsburg  
 Austin  
 Scott County School Districts 1 & 2  
 Operational Revenues

READI PROJECT C

# Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex at Scott County



#### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Scott County City of Scottsburg City of Austin Scott County School Districts 1 & 2 Township Trustees
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Scott County Community Foundation Scott County Family YMCA Scott County Visitors Commission Private Donors/Businesses
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Central Complex & Trail System	\$9,200,000

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$3,484,458**  
in new tax revenue



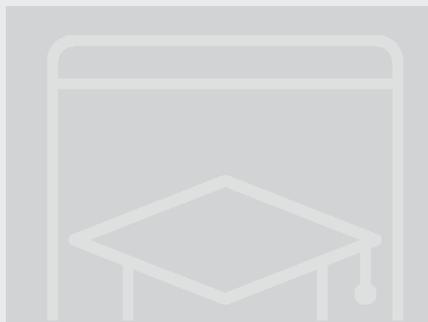
**\$16,814,827**  
in economic output



**262**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$5,671,479**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

---

-  Increase tourism revenue
-  Increase school enrollment through new residents
-  Increase housing and property values
-  Improve health outcomes (decrease rates of obesity/overweight, increase physical activity)
-  Attract and retain businesses by improving amenities and quality of life/place

## PROJECT READINESS

---

-  Control of Property
-  Properly Zoned
-  Conceptual Design Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Hanover College

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Ivy Tech Community College-Madison, Town of Hanover, City of Madison, Jefferson County, Western University of Health Sciences (Pomona, CA)

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Town of Hanover Sewer Improvement Project documents, including budget, financials, and construction plans.*
- *VTC Space Study and Preliminary Architectural Drawings*
- *VTC Pro Forma and Financial Projections*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT D

# Veterinary Teaching Center

*At Hanover College & Ivy Tech Madison*

**Build a Veterinary Teaching Center housing cutting-edge Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and veterinary nursing programs to establish Southern Indiana as a hub for innovation in veterinary medicine, agribusiness, and bioscience.**

Indiana ranks in the top five states nationally for production of duck, eggs, turkey, and pork, and Indiana is sixth for pet ownership. The state's robust bioscience industry also is a national leader. Indiana Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and vet nurse (also known as vet tech) positions are expected to grow by more than 20% over the next decade. Vet nursing has been named an "in-demand field" by the Governor's Workforce Council, making Indiana residents eligible for free training. And yet 40 rural Indiana counties – including four in the OurSoln RDA -- were flagged in 2019 by the USDA as having crucial shortages of veterinarians. With only 32 schools of veterinary medicine nationally, many states must export qualified students to other regions. National studies indicate there may be twice as many qualified applicants as U.S. DVM seats.

Shortages of vet professionals are hampering economic growth in the region, state, and nation. Hanover College and Ivy Tech-Madison will partner to create a Veterinary Teaching Center (VTC) to provide key personnel in these high-demand fields. The VTC will house both a 2+2 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in partnership with Western University of Health Sciences (Pomona, CA) and an Ivy Tech Associate's Degree in Veterinary Nursing. The programs will serve 110 students per year and employ 25 staff in high-wage jobs. VTC students will meet workforce needs through ongoing clinical and job placements with agribusiness, pet health, and biomedical science providers, as well as supporting regional animal shelters through spay and neuter programs.

This powerful workforce development engine will establish the Our Southern Indiana region as a hub for veterinary medicine, agribusiness, and bioscience, attracting talent and industry to area. The VTC will bring substantial economic benefits to the municipalities of Hanover, Madison, Jefferson County, and to project partners Hanover College and Ivy Tech-Madison. An economic study estimates the VTC could add \$4.99 million in annual output, or more than \$40

million in its first decade. These calculations are based on the addition of VTC students and faculty and do not include the benefits to farms, shelters, and clinics provided by the mobile vet vehicle, field learning opportunities, and clinical placements. Graduate housing will attract new residents to Hanover's walkable core and drive development. Improvements to the Hanover town sewer system will mitigate infrastructure issues, provide capacity for the VTC, and serve as the local government match.

The VTC will advance the strategic goals of Ivy Tech Community College and Hanover College by creating two high-demand programs to increase their profiles and revenue bases. Self-sustaining, the Center will show a net positive operating margin starting in Year 2 of student enrollment and will net approximately \$1 million in revenue starting in Year 4. These dollars will be reinvested in veterinary education and in accomplishing Hanover's liberal arts mission.

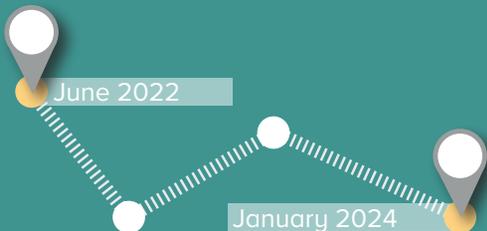
The VTC will produce highly skilled veterinary professionals, meeting critical shortages and supporting growth by expanding a key workforce and providing outreach, clinical placements, and service. The VTC will create a regional talent magnet, drawing entrepreneurs in the pet health, agribusiness and agritourism, and biomedical sectors. The vet nurse program will increase post-secondary educational attainment, supporting wealth creation for low-income residents. The capital investment necessary to build and equip veterinary labs and classrooms is a major barrier to VTC development. Without assistance, neither Hanover nor ITCC has the capital to create a facility of this magnitude. The VTC will immediately begin to generate a significant return on investment for Southern Indiana.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**



**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**  
Hanover College

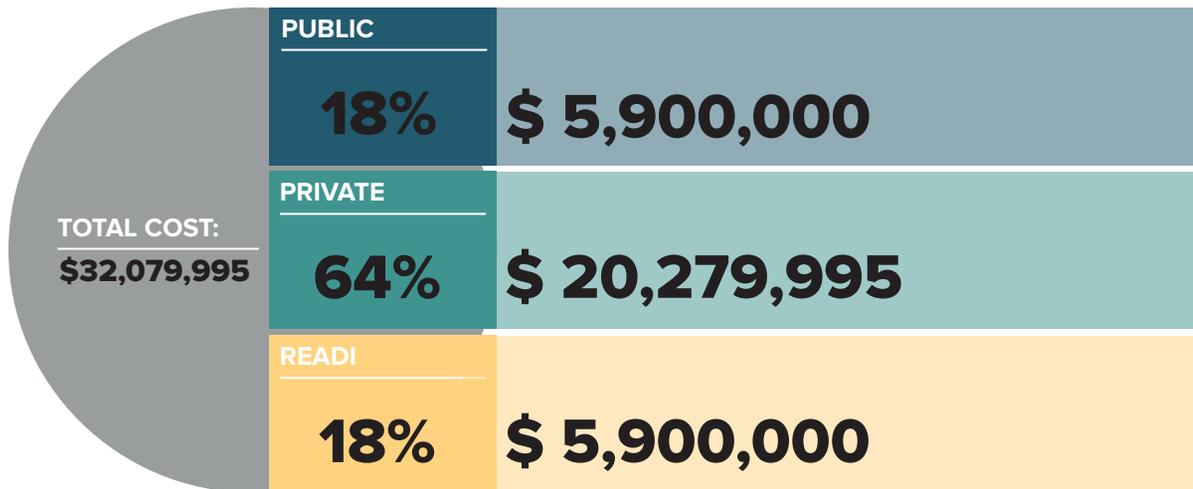
**Future Funding Sources:**  
Tuition Revenues\*

*\*Ongoing program budget for the VTC is estimated at \$6,167,851 per year; expected to show a net positive operating margin starting in Year 2 and will net approximately \$1 million in revenue, minus debt service and depreciation, starting in Year 4.*

READI PROJECT D

**Veterinary Teaching Center**

*At Hanover College & Ivy Tech Madison*



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Town of Hanover
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Hanover College Ivy Tech Madison
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$2,640,541**  
in new tax revenue



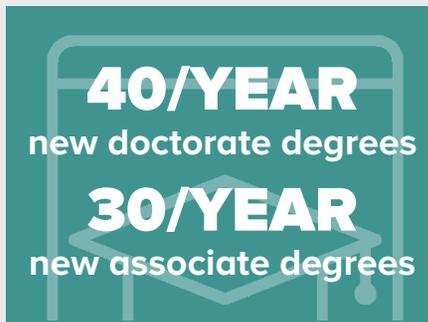
**\$29,438,341**  
in economic output



**138**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$5,324,851**  
total new wages



**40/YEAR**  
new doctorate degrees  
**30/YEAR**  
new associate degrees



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- ✓ Meet critical shortages across the state and nation by expanding a key workforce.
- ✓ Create a hub, talent attractor, and economic development engine for innovation in the pet health, agribusiness, agritourism, and biomedical industries.
- ✓ Drive population growth by attracting students from across the nation and embedding them in Indiana through hands-on learning experiences, clinical placements, and job opportunities.
- ✓ Increase post-secondary educational attainment and support wealth creation for low-income Hoosiers by offering the high-demand veterinary nursing degree.
- ✓ Advance the strategic goals of Hanover College and Ivy Tech by creating two high-demand, cutting-edge programs to increase their profiles and revenue bases.

## PROJECT READINESS

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Program and Conceptual Design Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- America Place, River Ridge Learning Center, Southern Indiana Works

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Ivy Tech Sellersburg, Prosser Career Center, and Align Southern Indiana

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Workforce of today, workforce of tomorrow, the Business Case for High Quality Childcare*
- *Work Based Learning, Apprenticeships, and Internships and Talent Development*
- *Priorities for Progress: Assets and Aspiration in Southern Indiana 2021*
- *Bi-State Plan for Advancing the Regional Workforce*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT E

# River Ridge Learning Center

*Early Childhood Education & Workforce Development Initiative*

**Expand existing facilities to provide high quality, early childhood learning (0-5 years old) for up to 400 children and build new facilities for talent development through career and training services, including work based learning.**

This project will be implemented in two phases, and phase 2 will occur immediately following phase 1.

#### Phase 1:

River Ridge Early Learning Academy will start with the construction and completion of the Early Learning Academy Facility. This facility will offer enrolment slots (2-5 years) to the business employees at River Ridge commuting in from surrounding counties. This projected start date is fall 2021.

Creation of the River Ridge Career and Training Center will begin with facility construction that will allow for the region's Local Workforce Development Board, Southern Indiana Works (SIW), to operate a Career and Training Center/ American Job Center office at River Ridge that will serve 3,500 Hoosiers annually. This is estimated to begin 2022.

#### Phase 2:

River Ridge Early Learning Academy will be the addition of two infant/toddler (0-3 years) rooms including a multi-purpose room. The estimated expansion completion and start date for infants and toddlers is 2024. The academy will continue expanding facilities over the course of six years

to serve a total of 400 children (0-5 years) and provide business employees access to high quality, affordable, comprehensive learning in an educational, age-appropriate environment. Our centers will partner with Ivy Tech Sellersburg and Prosser to provide Early Childhood practicum students a center to practice skills and provide employment opportunities as we expand.

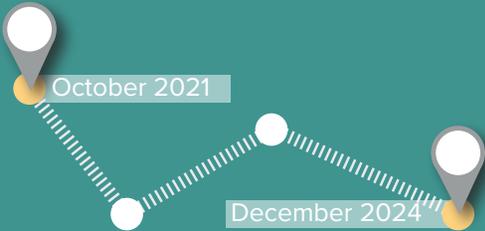
River Ridge Career and Training Center will include the development and implementation of the Southern Indiana Apprenticeship and Work-Based-Learning initiative and the Southern Indiana Talent Development Initiative to develop and supply much needed talent to regional business partners, Southern Indiana Talent Development will provide career and trainings services, short-term skills certification, internship for 70 young adults, and Registered Apprenticeship and Work-Based-Learning programming for 345 participants throughout the Southern Indiana region.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

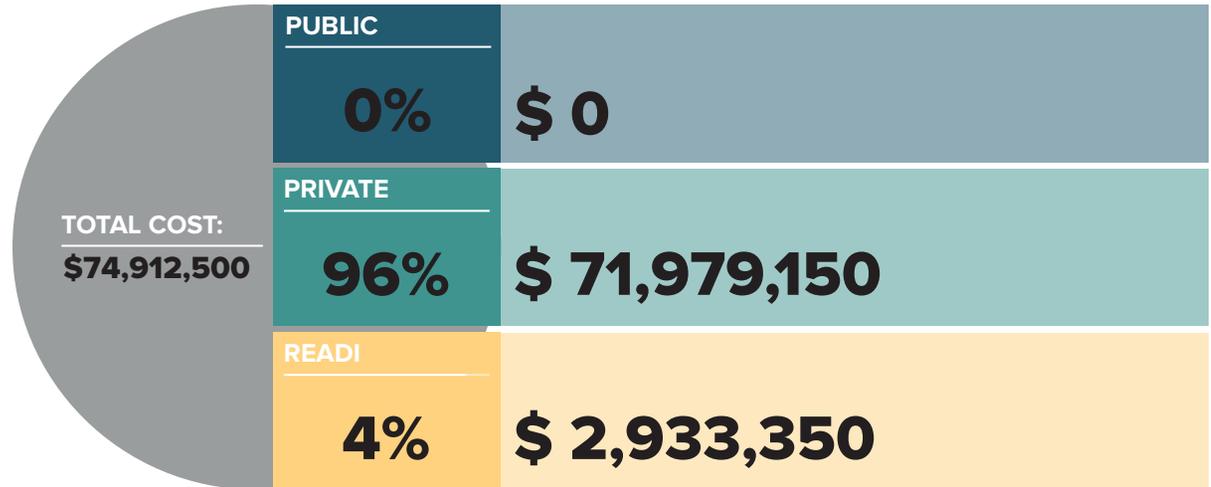
**PROJECTED TIMELINE**



READI PROJECT E

# River Ridge Learning Center

*Early Childhood Education & Workforce Development Initiative*



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	River Ridge Development Authority
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	America Place River Ridge Early Learning Academy Southern Indiana Works
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$924,344**  
in new tax revenue



**\$8,884,516**  
in economic output



**126**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$3,582,014**  
total new wages



**400**  
preschool graduates  
**3,500**  
new certifications,  
apprentices, & trainings  
completed



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- ✓ Create 400 additional high quality, affordable, comprehensive learning, and education (0-5 year old) slots.
- ✓ Leverage \$103 million average return on invest (\$1 to \$7 ROI) for early childhood education over over 6-years.
- ✓ Provide 3,500 Hoosiers with basic career and training services annually.
- ✓ Provide 300 individualized career services, approximately 8 million in wages annually for participants.
- ✓ Leverage ROI of 6:1 for talent development investment (through workforce programs) or \$72 million over 6 years.

## PROJECT READINESS

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Private Developer Commitment
- ✓ Preliminary Design Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- One Southern Indiana

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC), Render Capital, Caesars Foundation of Floyd County, Local Businesses

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Caesars Foundation Revolving Loan*
- *One Southern Indiana COVID Emergency Loan Funds*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT F

# The ONE Fund

*Entrepreneurial Support*

**Create a program that will provide small business education and literacy programming throughout the five-county region and small business lending with a portfolio of up to 16 loans.**

One Southern Indiana (1si) is establishing a Small Business Revolving Loan Fund to support all five counties within the RDA. The Revolving Loan Fund will help strengthen the RDA region by assisting potential and current business owners achieve their dreams. With the intent to build strong business communities, main streets and entrepreneurship, 1si will be a small business lender, and in some cases, the lender of last resort. While assisting new businesses with capital, the program will create jobs and enhance the quality of place in our communities. In partnership with the Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC), Render Capital, Caesars Foundation of Floyd County and many other community partners, 1si will empower individuals and business owners through education, counseling, mentoring, match-making, financial literacy programs and lending.

The 1si lending program will be inclusive. There will be a focus in minority and rural communities to assist in eradicating barriers to lending. 1si will practice fair lending and will be held accountable to all fair lending laws. The ONE Fund will serve current underserved communities and practice racial and credit equity.

1si will create a small business literacy program in partnership with the Indiana Small Business Development Center. The program will include modules such as writing a business plan, how to read financials, human resources for small business, and small business marketing, just to list a few.

The program will offer business counseling, valuable feedback, and expert reporting services. Our partner, the ISBDC, has access to premier company information and many nationally recognized market research databases. The ONE Fund staff will leverage these tools to locate accurate and relevant industry information, such as market trends, best practices, current conditions, executive insight, industry opportunities, and future industry-specific technology.

The ONE Fund program can take a small business from idea to start-up. The team can assist a small business through growth, succession, crisis, or day to day business education. The staff of The ONE Fund can lead a small business through strategic conversations and will be skilled in strategic implementation. The program will assist business through their infancy and toddler stages in hopes of graduating them to community partners such as bank lending.

The ONE Fund team will use the resources of 1si to assist the small business with connectivity when needed to professional experts such as lending institutions, accountants, attorneys and other experts who can assist in their growth.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**

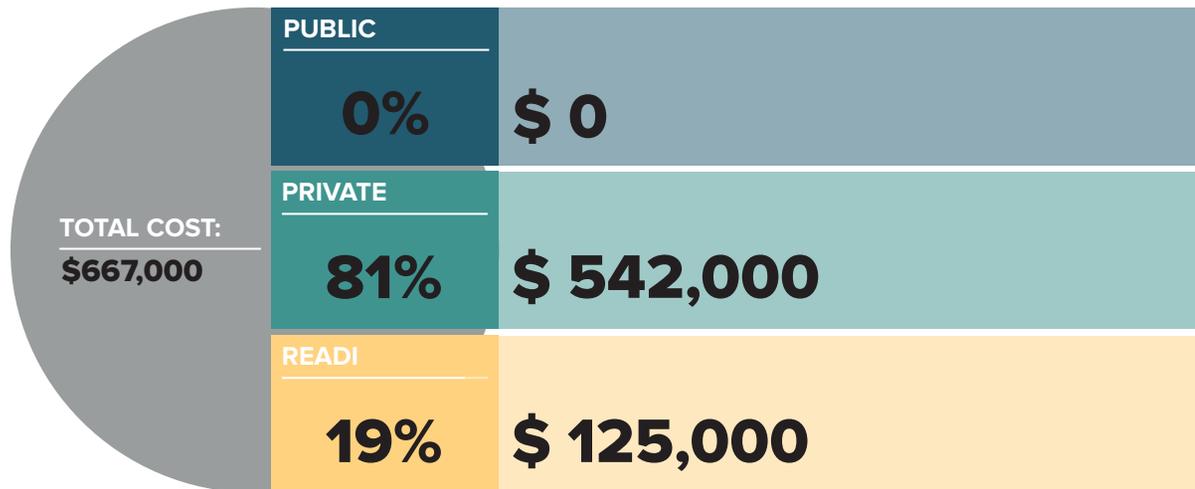


**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

*Entity Responsible for Maintenance:*  
One Southern Indiana

*Future Funding Sources:*  
N/A

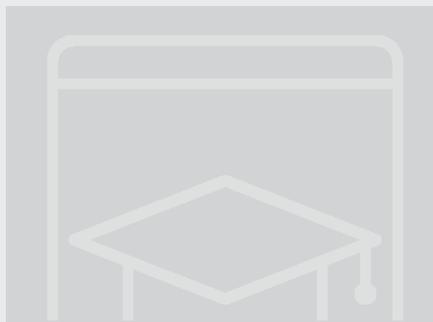
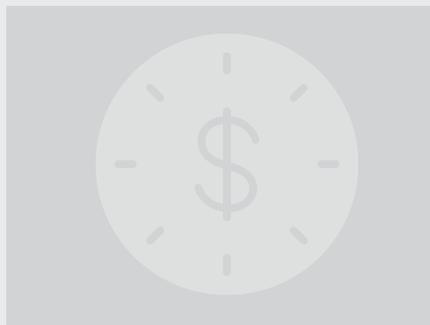
READI PROJECT F  
**The ONE Fund**  
*Entrepreneurial Support*



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Indiana Small Business Development Center
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Caesars Foundation of Floyd County Render Capital
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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-  Teach small business literacy.
-  Provide critical lending with a focus on minority and rural communities and businesses.
-  Assist small business growth and start-up.
-  Manage a portfolio of up to 16 small business loans.

## PROJECT READINESS

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-  Program Established
-  Program Administration Established



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Ivy Tech Community College  
Sellersburg, Family Scholar House

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Indiana State Police, Ogle Foundation,  
Sellersburg

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Scholar House Conceptual design and cost estimate*
- *Ivy Tech Infrastructure and Campus Entrance Detailed Design*
- *Sellersburg Comprehensive Plan*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT G

# Family Scholar House & Ivy Tech Sellersburg Initiative

**Create an innovative and affordable housing-workforce development partnership that will bring a Family Scholar House (FSH) residence to Southern Indiana along with expanded support services for resident and nonresident FSH students and their families.**

Ivy Tech Sellersburg and Family Scholar House (FSH) have embarked on a bold initiative to bring a Family Scholar House residence to Southern Indiana. This affordable housing, workforce development initiative encompasses impactful life and career services and a higher education/apprentice focus to lift-up those in need, those who aspire to overcome life challenges and fashion a greater future for themselves and their children.

The proposed Sellersburg Family Scholar House will be a 42-unit facility serving 75-100 residents, providing housing and comprehensive services to assist low-income individuals, with a focus on those who are single parents and young adults formerly in foster care. The facility will be located adjacent to the Ivy Tech Sellersburg campus on land currently owned by the Indiana State Police Post (land for the Sellersburg Post was originally donated to ISP by Ivy Tech in the 1970s). A framework has been developed that would facilitate a land transfer and sale that would create the needed footprint to construct the FSH facility and build the required Ivy Tech second entry and access road that will serve Family Scholar House, the ISP Sellersburg Post, and Ivy Tech Sellersburg.

Together, with support and encouragement from Ogle Foundation and Indiana State Police, Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House are committed to fully realizing this investment in Southern Indiana human potential by bringing all the services, benefits, and proven results already manifested in the five Louisville area Family Scholar Houses.

A Louisville-based nonprofit, the Family Scholar House's mission is to end the cycle of poverty and transform communities by empowering families and youth to succeed in education and achieve life-long self-sufficiency. Family Scholar House received Lumina Foundation's national Rise Prize in 2020 for exceptional work on postsecondary attainment and economic mobility within single parents with a two-generation solution. In 2020 FSH was designated an EnVision Center by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and recognized for the innovative combination of wrap-around two-generational programs and services and affordable housing.

Through wraparound services, participants have supports needed to pursue degrees, certifications, or apprenticeships in fields of their choice leading to self-sufficiency through livable-wage careers. The foundation of the FSH-Ivy Tech partnership is built on a decade long relationship dedicated to supporting nonresidential participants attending Ivy Tech. The campus also provides an office for Family Scholar House at no cost, allowing FSH teams a prime location to serve all their Southern Indiana participants

Importantly, Sellersburg Family Scholar House will serve housing residents as well as nonresidents in the community seeking connection to FSH resources. With a fully actualized Sellersburg Family Scholar House, staffing and services dedicated to Southern Indiana students and their families will be expanded and enhanced as participants enroll in area college, university, or apprentice programs to forge their unique pathways to life and career success.

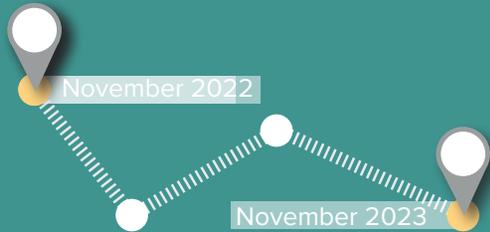
A vibrant community requires a vibrant workforce, a workforce infused with the remarkable talents and aspirations of people across the length and breadth of the socioeconomic spectrum. This bold and strategic partnership breaks down barriers to building Southern Indiana's workforce by breaking down barriers for those determined to build something better and more vibrant of their own.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**



**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

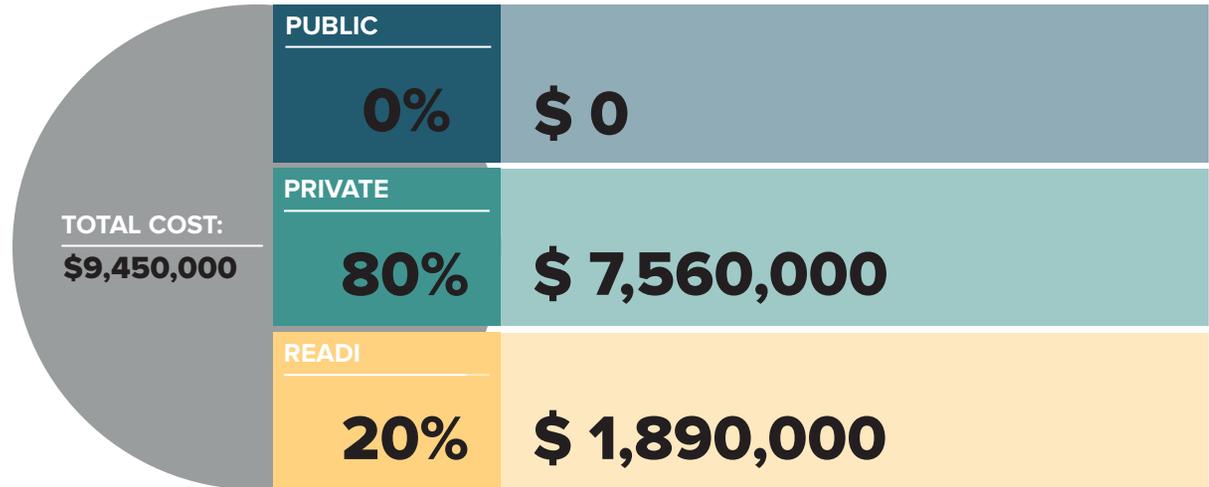
Family Scholar House  
Ivy Tech Sellersburg

**Future Funding Sources:**

HUD Section 8 (tenant rental assistance)  
Family Scholar House Philanthropy Funds  
Ivy Tech Sellersburg Operating Budget (Road Entrance)

READI PROJECT G

# Family Scholar House & Ivy Tech Sellersburg Initiative



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Indiana State Police Sellersburg Post
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Ivy Tech Sellersburg Family Scholar House Ogle Foundation
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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- ✓ Serve 1,557 pre-residential head-of-household participants with post-secondary education and apprenticeship support services in the 24-month program start-up period after construction.
- ✓ Serve 2,024 minor children with 2-generation educational and family support services.
- ✓ Provide safe, affordable housing and support for 42 families and individuals while they pursue post-secondary education.
- ✓ Enroll 250 in the pre-residential program toward residential services.

## PROJECT READINESS

---

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Preliminary Design Complete



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Floyd County Commissioners

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Town of Georgetown, Destination Georgetown, Indiana University Southeast, Novaparke

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Town of Georgetown Downtown Master Plan*
- *Vision Floyd County Comprehensive Plan*
- *Floyd County Economic Development Strategy*
- *Edwardsville Gateway Master Plan*
- *Floyd County Parks and Recreation Master Plan*
- *Floyd County Redevelopment Commission Highlander Point-Edwardsville TIF Master Plan*
- *Novaparke Certified Technology Park Study*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



### READI PROJECT H

## Novaparke Innovation Corridor

*Entrepreneurial and Laboratory Space at Novaparke and Highway 64 Corridor Infrastructure Projects*

**Build an entrepreneurial and laboratory space at Novaparke and install gas and utilities along State Road 64 to attract a creative talent base, develop innovative-based, high-wage jobs, and provide critical infrastructure for future development.**

As the Our Southern Indiana region's Western Gateway, the Novaparke Innovation Corridor, is poised to be a catalyst in the region's economic and community development endeavors. The development of the corridor ties the necessary elements of improved infrastructure, quality of place initiatives in downtown Georgetown and development of an innovation, technology and entrepreneurial hub, Novaparke.

Floyd County and the Town of Georgetown view the development of the corridor as essential to the growth of not only the area but the region as a whole. Working in collaboration, the County and Town understand their efforts as part of a larger partnership with the region's other communities.

Having intentionally developed Novaparke to serve as an innovation, technology and entrepreneurial development hub, the County envisions the campus to not only serve county residents but serve the region in nurturing its entrepreneurial ecosystem. Several infrastructure projects have been developed including improvements to water, sewer, road and natural gas.

Dovetailing these efforts with the Town's efforts to revitalize its downtown through their quality of place initiatives has created a once in a generation opportunity to strengthen the State Road 64 corridor. The Town has demonstrated several successes in the recent years from its façade program to its sidewalk improvement projects. These successes have helped to spark the development and implementation efforts of its latest project, the Town Ballpark project that is currently a future phase.

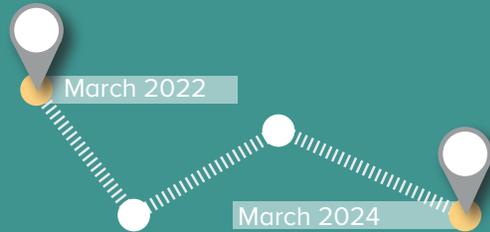




## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECTED TIMELINE



#### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

##### Entity Responsible for Maintenance:

- Floyd County
- Town of Georgetown
- Vectren
- Edwardsville Water Corporation

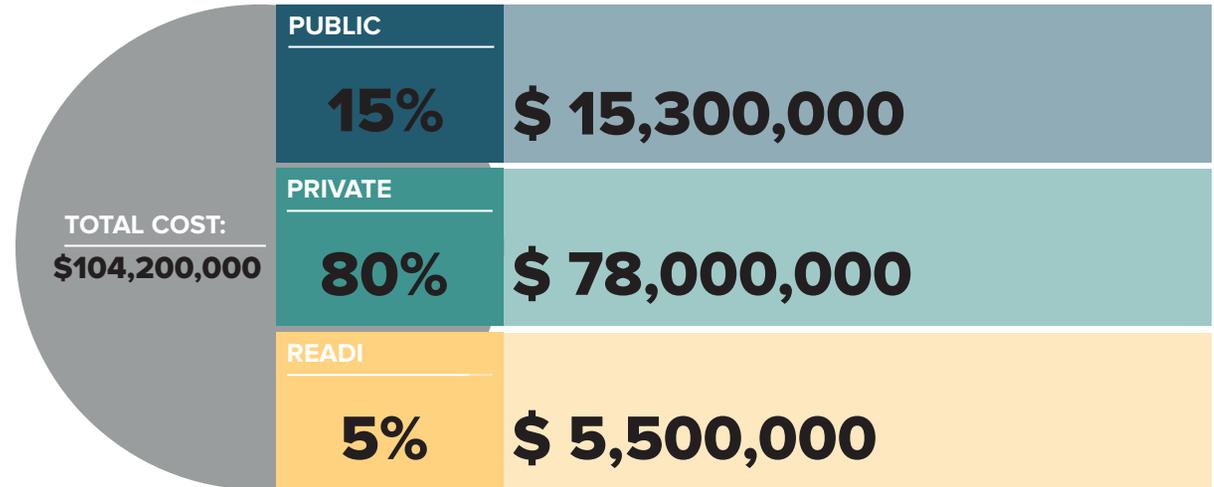
##### Future Funding Sources:

- Floyd County Income Tax
- Tax Increment Finance Funds
- Private Utilities

### READI PROJECT H

## Novaparke Innovation Corridor

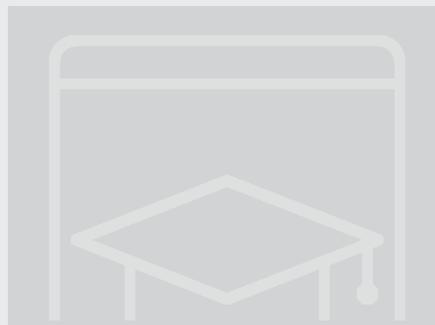
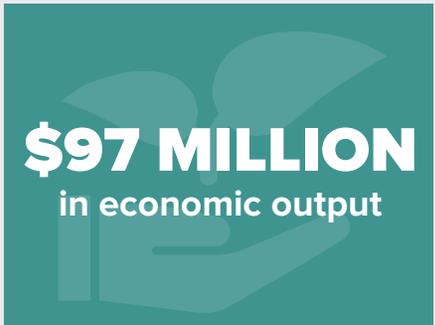
Entrepreneurial and Laboratory Space at Novaparke and Highway 64 Corridor Infrastructure Projects



#### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Floyd County
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Vectren Edwardsville Water Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Georgetown Park Improvements	\$4,900,000

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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- ✓ Create 100 FTE in innovation sector with an average wage of \$43 per hour and \$8.9 million in recurring annual income from anchor tenant.
- ✓ Create 40,000 square feet commercial space.
- ✓ Spur entrepreneurial development through development of much needed space.

## PROJECT READINESS

---

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Private Developer Commitment
- ✓ Preliminary Design Complete



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Town of Clarksville

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Clarksville Redevelopment Commission, Denton Floyd Real Estate Group, Cornerstone Real Estate Group

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *South Clarksville Redevelopment Area Master Plan (2016)*
- *South Clarksville Mixed-Use Zoning Update (2018)*
- *South Clarksville Marathon Development Plan (2021)*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



### READI PROJECT I

# South Clarksville's Riverfront

## Mixed Use Redevelopment

**Construct a riverfront street grid within the former Marathon and Colgate areas to generate at least four mixed-use developments totalling \$174.5 million in private investment and attracting at least 1,500 new residents.**

For the remainder of 2021, the Town is currently finishing construction on a new \$7 million Main Street and planning to close on two acres and 11 houses (to be demolished) for \$2 million to create a new pad site for development. The Town will expend an estimated \$2 million on modifying the Main St. floodwall to allow for better connectivity to the riverfront.

The Town is also planning on issuing \$12.5 million in bonds to support the first mixed-use project: "Current 812" is a \$45 million project with Class-A amenities by Denton Floyd Real Estate Developers. Current 812 calls for creating the first sections of a street grid which will set the table for at least three additional town-owned sites to be converted into mixed-use developments with an estimated construction cost of \$130 million total. The street grid construction, design, and associated costs are estimated at \$14,959,400. The Town will spend upwards of \$27,340,686 on street construction and developer backed bonds to incentivize development on these three sites. Depending on cooperation of local landowners, the momentum from these sites could spur an additional three mixed-use developments totaling another \$140 million of private investment.

#### Future Phase (2023-2025):

The Town will begin construction on the remaining \$14,242,440 of the street grid, effectively opening up an additional two blocks for \$80 million of development, the majority of which will consist of 168 upscale 3-story townhome condos/apartments and a 1-acre linear park, the development is estimated at \$40M. The Town and a selected developer will have agreement executed in 2023 to begin construction in 2024. The Town anticipates providing upwards of \$8 million in developer-backed bonds to support the project. The developer should leverage RDC funds to help secure maximum \$7 million in RTCs from IEDC. The Town also controls a minor portion of an adjacent block and will execute an MOU with the sole remaining property owner to purchase or help develop the property into a 145-room 5-story hotel with attached garage adjoining to a 5-story residential and 3-story office space. The development is estimated at \$40 million (conservative), the Town is hopeful to execute an agreement with a selected developer or current land owner in 2023 to begin construction in 2024. The Town is hopeful selected developer or current land owner will not require incentives as TIF bonds since funding capacity is limited.

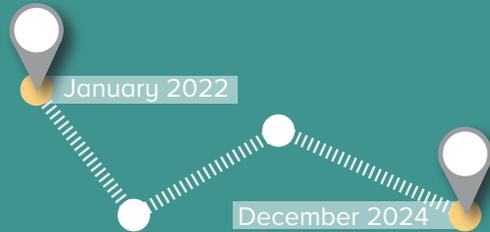




## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECTED TIMELINE



#### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

Town of Clarksville

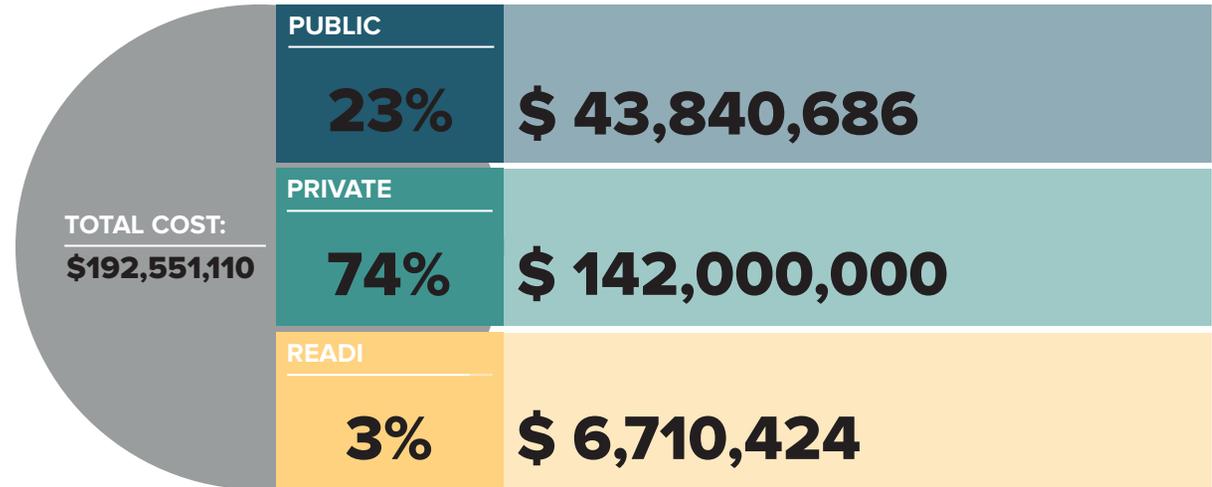
**Future Funding Sources:**

Town of Clarksville General Fund

READI PROJECT I

# South Clarksville's Riverfront

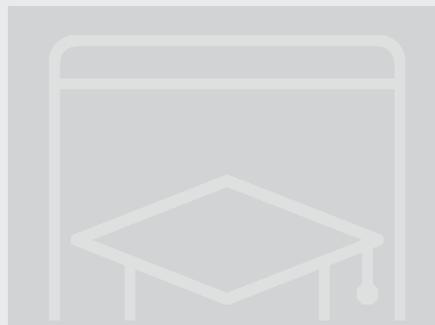
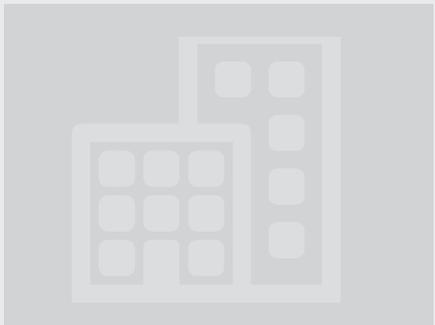
Mixed Use Redevelopment



#### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Town of Clarksville Clarksville Redevelopment Commission
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Denton Floyd Real Estate Group Cornerstone Real Estate Group Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Phase 2	\$11,193,952

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

---

 Generate \$100 million in local property taxes and \$80 million in local income taxes (for Phase 1 and Phase 2 over 20 years).

 Attract 1,500 new residents to our region through quality of place and desirable housing.

## PROJECT READINESS

---

 Control of Property

 Properly Zoned

 Private Developer Commitment

 Preliminary Design Complete



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- American Village Properties, LLC; Anderson Partners, LLC; AP Development LLC; The Marian Group; Denton Floyd Real Estate Group; Washington County Economic Growth Partnership

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- City of Charlestown, City of Jeffersonville, City of Madison, City of Salem

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *City of Charlestown Comprehensive Plan*
- *City of Jeffersonville Comprehensive Plan*
- *City of Madison Comprehensive Plan*
- *Washington County Community Foundation*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



READI PROJECT J1 | J2 | J3 | J4 | J5

## Workforce Housing

*Infrastructure & Property Acquisition*

**Provide investment in public infrastructure and land acquisition to support new workforce housing (both single and multi-family units) that is needed for population growth.**

Workforce housing is an essential need to any region with a growing economy to support the influx of new jobs and allow for new residents to locate in the region. While the region also needs a diverse housing inventory with multiple types and price points, workforce housing that targets middle-income workers in the region is needed. This includes those who do not usually qualify for housing subsidies and typically earn between 80% and 120% of the median income for the region, such as police officers, teachers, retail clerks, and other essential professions.

Workforce housing is a challenge because is not supported by public housing programs because the average wages of residents are above the low-income thresholds, but the middle-income wages do not necessarily provide significant disposable income. As development costs increase significantly, providing housing at a price point that is affordable with the average wage in each county is increasingly difficult.

This project includes the public investment required to support the creation of additional housing units to support the region’s current and future need for workforce housing.

The public investment consists of property acquisition and construction of the necessary public infrastructure, such as utility, drainage, broadband, and/or roadway improvements, to allow for the privately owned investments to come to fruition.

Our region has identified multiple housing projects to support our workforce, including both multi-family and single-family developments, throughout the region. As these developments move forward, the RDA can partner with the private developer and city/town to identify infrastructure needs that can make these developments financially feasible. Our priority workforce housing projects, that will provide the largest impact to our region, include:



## PRIORITY PROJECTS

- 1. Depot Street Revitalization Housing:** The \$25 million Depot Street Revitalization project is an eight-acre multi-family and retail/commercial development providing a pedestrian and bike-friendly environment located at the southern gateway to downtown Charlestown. The apartment community will have stainless steel appliances, washers and dryers, and high-end finishes. Additionally, the development will offer shared neighborhood amenities connected by walking paths and sidewalks, as well as retail space. This development will be ideally located to serve our workforce at River Ridge Commerce Center.
- 2. The Landings at River Ridge:** The Landings at River Ridge, totaling \$38.6 million, is located at State Road 62 and River Ridge Parkway in Jeffersonville. With construction documents complete, it will provide 256 multi-family units for workforce housing on approximately 21 acres. The development will feature a clubhouse, pool, and active, generous green spaces - all at the northern entrance to River Ridge Commerce Center and just a short drive to downtown Jeffersonville, Charlestown, and Louisville.
- 3. Market Street Commons:** The \$37 million Market Street Commons development is located at the corner of Highway 3 and Pike Street in Charlestown and is ready to begin construction. This 192-unit, multi-family workforce housing development will include one-, two-, and three-bedroom units and will offer shared neighborhood amenities connected by walking paths and sidewalks. This development will be ideally located to serve our workforce at River Ridge Commerce Center.
- 4. WCEGP Housing on N. Shelby Street:** The \$9.7 million development located on a 29-acre parcel along N. Shelby Street in Salem, consists of a minimum of 15 single family housing units. The infrastructure support needed to make this project feasible includes streets, curbs, and gutters for public roads. The project location allows access to amenities such as the Salem Community Schools, the Washington County YMCA, and established walking paths to provide connectivity to downtown Salem. This development will provide affordable housing in a rural portion of our region where middle-class housing is in short-supply.
- 5. The Scott Block Loft:** The \$8.5 million mixed-use historic preservation project will create 27 apartments in the historic Scott Block Building on West Main Street in Madison. The majority of the ground floor will remain commercial/retail space with the addition of a new co-working space. The upper floors will be transformed into residential apartments to provide housing options for Jefferson County's workforce.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SITES

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECTED TIMELINE



#### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

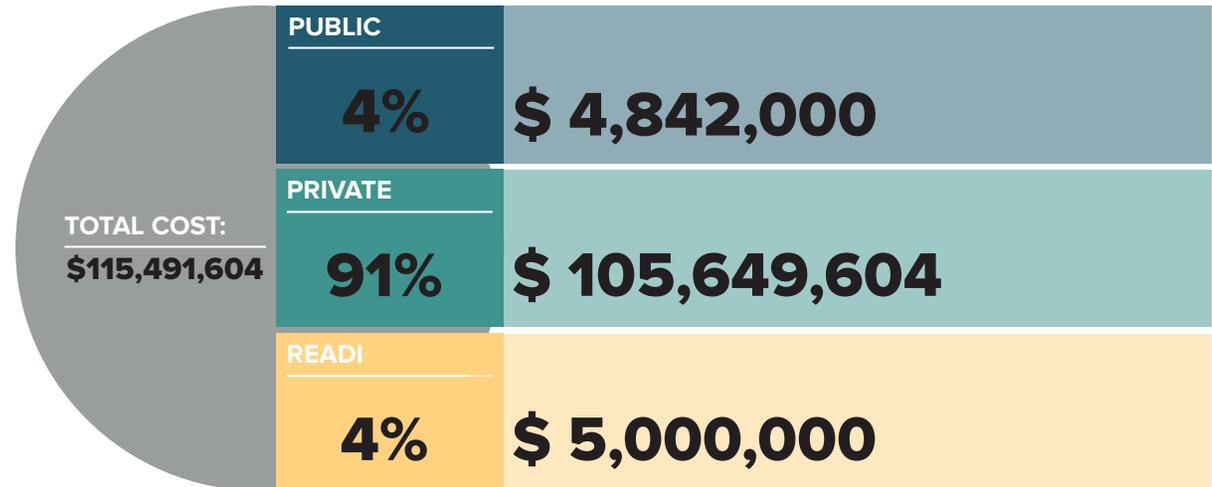
**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**  
Private Developers

**Future Funding Sources:**

READI PROJECT J1 | J2 | J3 | J4 | J5

## Workforce Housing

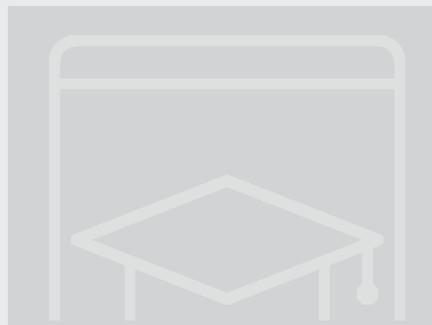
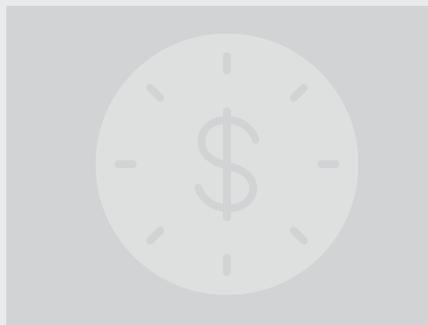
*Infrastructure & Property Acquisition*



#### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Charlestown Redevelopment Commission Madison Redevelopment Commission City of Salem
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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-  Develop critical workforce housing for region that keeps pace with the job growth.
-  Increase population by providing housing for new residents.
-  Allow critical employment sectors, such as teachers, police officers, retail clerks, to live and work in our region.

## PROJECT READINESS

---

-  Properly Zoned
-  Private Developer Commitment
-  Preliminary Design Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- River Heritage Conservancy, Inc.

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Ogle Foundation, Blue Sky Foundation, Floyd County, Town of Clarksville, Indiana DNR, US Army Corps of Engineers, IDEM, Community Foundation of Southern Indiana, Sam Shine Foundation, Clark-Floyd Counties Tourism Bureau

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Origin Park Master Plan and Phase I Design and Development Plans*
- *Engineering, Value Engineering and Cultural/Environmental Permit Charter*
- *Origin Park Community and Economic Impact Report*
- *Outdoor Adventure Center Performance and Operational Plan*
- *Regional Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT K

# Origin Park, Phase 1

**Activate an initial 110-acres of an OLIN Studio master designed park that will activate blighted riverlands creating an unparalleled quality of life for all.**

Southern Indiana has 150 years watching Louisville city residents benefit from a collection of the nation’s best parks. Now Hoosiers have the opportunity to flip the script permanently, with the creation of Origin Parks. Phase I establishes a conservancy-driven, iconically American landscape that will elevate Southern Indiana’s position as a premier urban center for families and businesses alike. The first 110 acres of this park will open in late 2024.

This park is scaled to reshape and heal an urban and blighted waterfront, converting it to a intentionally curated and stewarded public asset that will host millions of guests per year, steward Indiana’s 12,000 years of cultural diversity and human settlement, improve the region’s sadly struggling health indicators, support walkable, dense river front neighborhoods attractive for families and businesses, and through groundbreaking design, protect the region from increasing intense Ohio River flooding.

The park will leverage private and local funds to open the first 110 acres of the 600-acre master planned park. The first phase includes the region’s first special events center on the Ohio River, three miles of new roadways with private sector multi-use and infill development opportunities, six miles of trails, five architectural features sure to top Architectural Digest, and other supporting amenities like restrooms, trailheads, parking, and artist-in-resident resources. This OLIN Studio designed park will bring Connor Prairie quality to Southern Indiana’s underserved cities. And it does all of this with a sustainable funding model underwritten by local venture fund operators and backed by economic/community impact analysis was completed by the top urban economist working today, HR&A. Subsequent phases include an unparalleled outdoor adventure center, 120 acres of meadows, and with the planting of 75,000 trees, the nation’s largest new urban forest.

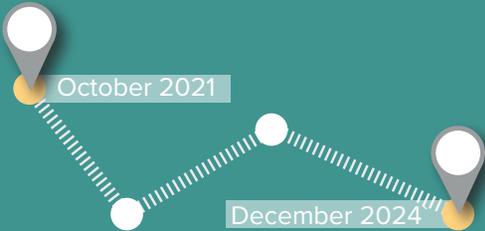
Origin Park will make Southern Indiana more competitive by offering quality of place amenities equal to those found in peer cities that have proven vital in the attraction, and retention, of residents and businesses. Locally, this will allow Southern Indiana to compete with Eastern Jefferson and Oldham Counties in the Louisville/ Southern Indiana MSA for workforce and business attraction. Origin Park's first phase is designed to elevate Southern Indiana's presence on the national opportunity map for being a desirable and competitive place to live, work, and play.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**



**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

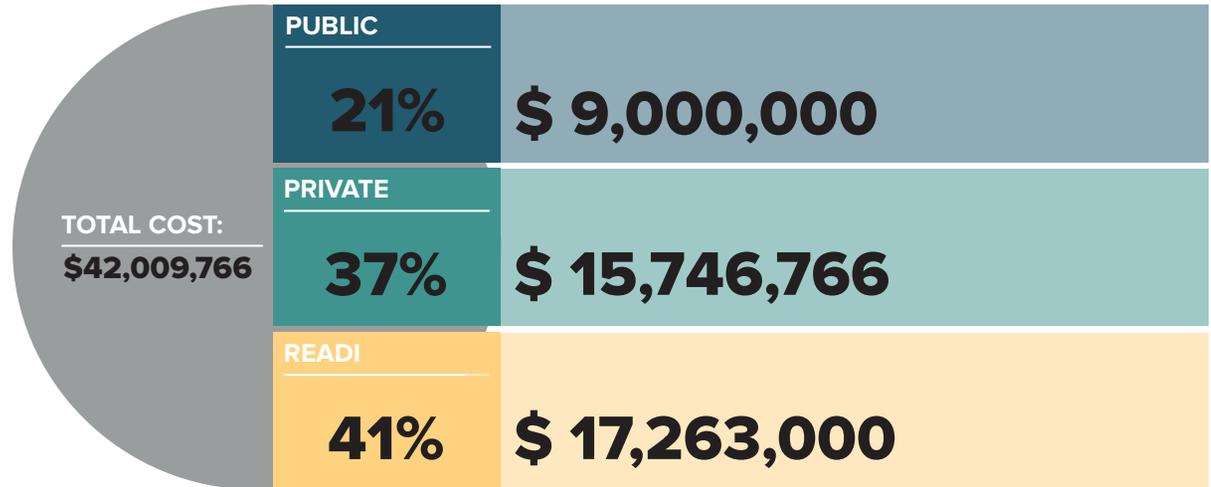
**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

River Heritage Conservancy, Inc.

**Future Funding Sources:**

River Heritage Conservancy Annual Campaign  
Park Operational Revenue Lines underwritten and backed by two regional foundations.

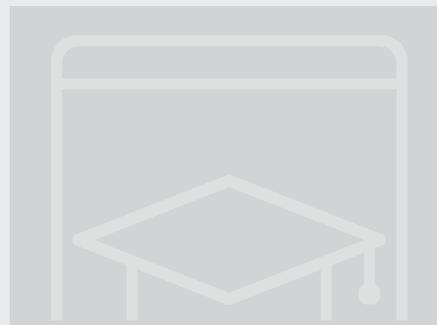
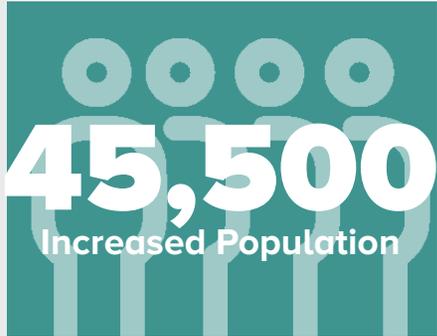
**Origin Park, Phase 1**



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Town of Clarksville
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	River Heritage Conservancy
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Remaining Park Phases	\$158,000,000

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- ✓ Attract and retain talent, increasing home value, spurring economic growth and creating quality jobs, improving community health measures and workforce productivity, and increasing tourism spending.
- ✓ Fill the missing gap in the bi-state region's park and greenway system by adding a park unique in our nation's urban park inventory - a wild, riverfront urban landscape accessible to 1.2 million people within a 30-minute drive giving them Southern Indiana's White River State Park, Indiana's Millennium Park, our nation's next Central Park.
- ✓ Elevate equitable access for all residents and guests by connecting mobility and health in a place that is 100% free for all to enjoy.

## PROJECT READINESS

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Preliminary Design Complete

# Regional Trail Initiative

**Identify a regional trail system that connects assets of the entire region, leverages existing trail systems (such as the Ohio River Greenway and Louisville Loop), and advocates for future trails (such as the South Monon Trail and Hanover-Madison Connector Trail).**

A regional greenway system is a natural structure of connection and consensus building for all five counties of the Southern Indiana region. The greenway system provides a place to find consensus on regional goals and priorities, including preservation and celebration of the unique character and history of the region's rural and urban areas. Through creating the cooperative agreements to manage, maintain, and grow this type of regional system, each participant, public and private, creates an even stronger regional network more capable of accomplishing a wide variety of cooperative projects all of which have regional benefits.

A comprehensive system of hard and soft pavements, natural and rugged trails, greenways, blueways, parks, and outdoor recreation venues also provides new ways for Southern Indiana residents and visitors to explore natural and historic landmarks, stay active, and access a connected set of regional destinations.

Creating a regional greenway system for Southern Indiana promotes the region's history and celebrates the area's cultural and natural resources that differentiate it from other communities in the state and across the nation. A future Southern Indiana Regional Greenway system would connect over 20 communities and 30+ destinations, including state and local parks as well as cultural and historic points of interest and should leverage the existing trail assets found in the region including the Ohio River Greenway, the Madison Connector Trail and the future CSX Rails to Trails corridor leading from New Albany to Bedford. In addition to connecting physical communities, the proposed system should connect to additional amenities such as restaurants, nightlife, and overnight accommodations. Not only will the proposed Southern Indiana Regional Greenway promote economic

development and pedestrian connectivity, but it will also promote the development of an increasingly accessible public transportation system, complete streets, active living, proactive health practices, and lifelong learning and recreational opportunities.

Added recreation and tourism, economic development, as well as environmental preservation and protection are all benefits of an established Regional Greenway system in Southern Indiana. As growth and development pressures continue to infringe on the area's natural assets, protecting and preserving the natural landscape becomes challenging. A partnership with existing land trusts in the community enhances the ability to acquire and maintain land in this regional greenway system. Sycamore Land Trust is one land trust that has already worked with the Ohio River Greenway Commission to preserve and protect land while also encouraging recreational amenity development for visitors and residents.

Some of the destination activities in this regional recreation network include: ziplining through The Knobs, kayaking Silver Creek or the Ohio River, hiking the Knobstone Trail, examining prehistoric fossil beds at the Falls of the Ohio River State Park, exploring the ruins of Rose Island Amusement Park at Charlestown State Park, picking fruits and vegetables or enjoying a glass of wine at Huber's Family Farm and Winery, relaxing on the beach at Deam Lake, biking along an old rail line from Charlestown to Salem, visiting George Rogers Clark Cabin or the Howard Steamboat Museum, experiencing the beautiful vistas of Louisville, shopping local stores in the historic downtown destinations, gambling at the Horseshoe Casino, or spelunking in Wyandotte Cave. These recreational opportunities will continue to grow in response to use and popularity.





## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Align Southern Indiana, Radius Indiana, Indiana Uplands READI region, Hanover College, Origin Park
- Ohio River Greenway Commission, Friends of the Ohio River Greenway
- Clark County Commissioners, Floyd County Commissioners, Jefferson County Commissioners, Scott County Commissioners, Washington County Commissioners
- Municipal leaders from all incorporated cities and towns within Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington counties

### PROJECT SUPPORTERS

- Anchor institutions and businesses

### ANTICIPATED FUNDING SOURCES

- READI
- Align Southern Indiana
- Radius
- IDNR
- Future Our Southern Indiana RDA General Operating Fund\* as established by the RDA Board.\*

*\* Refer to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority Organizational Work Plan for information on proposed revenue options.*



# Regional Trail Initiative

## Implementation Steps

The Our Soln Regional Development Authority has the unique ability to approach trails from a regional perspective, ensuring that our system is not only connected with our five-county region but also to adjacent regions and networks such as Radius and the 100-mile Louisville Loop. The RDA should provide this regional direction and review while local partners carry out the implementation. The following action steps are recommended to provide this regional perspective and ensure our trail network is connected beyond our region.

### 1. Prepare a Regional Trail Feasibility Plan | 3-12 Months

Work with partners to prepare a detailed Regional Trails Master Plan that takes into account the region's existing trails, planned expansions, existing destinations, and growth areas. It should also incorporate connectivity beyond our region with a focus on Radius and Louisville. The plan should seek to find innovative ways to encourage and facilitate physical infrastructure improvements, especially to those destinations and communities in the rural counties.

READI Project l1 should be completed to fulfill this action step.

### 2. Coordinate with regional partners (such as Radius and Louisville) as well as city, town, and county officials to oversee the implementation of land acquisition, design, and construction of major trail segments. | On-going

The RDA should act as a regional coordinator to bring together the various city, town, county, and regional partners to identify the next steps and resources needed for land acquisition, design, and construction of major trail segments. The RDA will not lead the implementation, but would be a partner during this stage of the initiative. The RDA should provide regional oversight to ensure connectivity and coordination with adjacent regions.

READI Projects l2, l3, and l4 should be the first priority segments for implementation due to their regional impact, important connections, and feasibility. Based on the recommendations from the Regional Trail Master Plan (Project l1), additional segments should be prioritized based on their regional impact.



## REGIONAL TRAILS CASE STUDY

### The Marquette Plan- Phase I & II

Communities within Lake and Porter County,  
Indiana

The Marquette Plan, completed in two phases (2005-2007), was a collaborative effort to develop a comprehensive land use vision and supporting infrastructure improvement projects to guide reinvestment efforts to reclaim a portion of Indiana's natural shoreline.

The study area includes two cities, 11 towns, and two counties that are home to such prominent destinations such as the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park. The planning process also included and considered the various local and regional planning documents guiding development in the study area. The Marquette Plan process emphasized the need for collaboration across the region. Included in the two initial phases and the subsequent 2015 plan update were a series of multi-jurisdictional, community-endorsed, short-term projects that could be used to unify and connect the various communities, resources, and attractions.



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Align Southern Indiana

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Five counties, 22 cities and towns

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Hoosiers on the Move Greenways and Bikeways Plan (2006)*
- *Indiana DNR Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (2011-2025)*
- *Indiana Bicycle Trails Task Force Final Report (2019)*
- *Radius Indiana Quality of Place Trail Enhancement (2020)*
- *CFSI Priorities for Progress (2021)*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT L1

# Regional Trails Align Master Plan

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*

**Create a master plan that outlines a regional trail system that connects our five counties and 22 communities to popular destinations, cultural and historical sites, local and state parks, and neighboring regions (Radius and Louisville).**

Quality of place has become an important element of economic development in locations across the country as regions compete to develop strategies to attract, develop and retain a talented workforce. Parks, trails and the connections between them have been proven to be desirable natural assets that enhance the quality of place.

While our region has many beautiful parks, few are connected by regional trails that provide the experience of travel moving at a healthier pace via biking or hiking. Connecting the parks located in towns across our region, trails will promote safe, alternative transportation, as well as healthy, affordable outdoor recreation.

By preserving the natural beauty of the region, reimagining how the parks can be connected by trails, the region will gain a quality of place that will attract a talented workforce, as well as creating a tourism destination to enjoy the outdoors. By focusing on key hubs or parks within the region, trails can be imagined that will allow the outdoor experience to become the regional experience.

The Align Southern Indiana Regional Trails team is proposing the creation of a “Comprehensive Regional Integrated Trails Master Plan” which will identify and prioritize for future development an integrated trails and connected parks system serving the greater community. With this Comprehensive Regional Integrated Trails Master Plan in hand, the southern Indiana region will be able to implement the vision of a strategically connected trails and parks system.

While trail development will occur mainly at the local levels of government, the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority could participate at a regional level in a variety of ways including the possibility of creating a regional trail authority to implement the Comprehensive Regional Integrated Trails Master Plan.

Not all trails will be connected in short order, however, the criteria outlined below should be used to prioritize the involvement and support of the Our Southern Indiana RDA board:

- Locate central hubs or parks with the purpose of establishing connecting trails to other parks.
- Use existing sites and prioritize strategic links between parks using as many existing trails as possible.
- Reuse and repurpose of abandoned railways and other vacated corridors to capitalize on removing potential eyesores from the region's landscape as the trails are imagined and developed.
- Incorporated within the Comprehensive Regional Integrated Trails Master Plan, consideration should be given to site and environmental improvements that can be attained in concert with building trails to connect existing trails and parks in the region.
- As part of the Comprehensive Regional Integrated Trails Master Plan development process, hearings will be held in each community to gain input from local citizens, local government officials, and the private business sector.
- While a preliminary fiscal/operating plan will be developed when requesting participation with the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority, the Comprehensive Regional Trails Master Plan will address the scope of the trail system, when it will occur, and estimated costs plus long-term functional and operational maintenance plans for the integrated regional trail system.





**NATURAL  
ASSETS**

## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

*Entity Responsible for Maintenance:*

N/A

*Future Funding Sources:*

N/A

READI PROJECT L1

# Regional Trails Align Master Plan

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

#### PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI

Local Public Funding Source(s)

N/A

Private & Other Funding Source(s)

Align Southern Indiana

#### FUTURE PHASE(S)

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



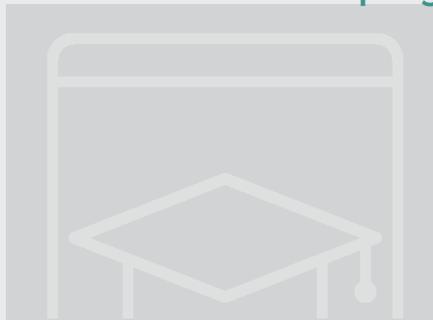
Link people to the nature, history, and communities of Southern Indiana with world-class trails, bikeways, greenways, and walkways.



Promote active, healthy outdoor lifestyles, while vibrant, connected communities will benefit from sustainable, alternative transportation and recreation opportunities.



Encourage economic development, attract and retain a talented workforce, stimulate growth by increasing tourism and visitation, and increase property values, strengthening Southern Indiana as a safe, welcoming place to live, work and play.



## PROJECT READINESS

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Preliminary Trail Studies Complete



Current Trails Network Inventory



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- City of New Albany

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Indiana Uplands READI Region; Radius Indiana; Floyd County Commissioners; Cook Group, Inc.; Indiana University Southeast; Ohio River Greenway Commission; Indiana University’s Center for Rural Engagement; City of Salem; Town of New Pekin; Town of Campbellsburg; Town of Orleans; City of Mitchell, Southern Indiana Trailways, Inc., Indiana DNR, Indiana Destination Development Corporation

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Indiana Bicentennial*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT L2

# South Monon Freedom Trail

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*

**Catalyze potentially the longest regional trail system in the State of Indiana to drive economic development and population attraction and improve quality of life to support population growth.**

When completed, the South Monon Freedom Trail will be an extension of the Ohio River Greenway Trail which borders the Ohio River along the New Albany, Jeffersonville, and Clarksville shorelines, and it will provide a direct connection to the 100+-mile Louisville Loop. The extension will bring the benefits of a considerable amount of pedestrian and bicycle traffic exploring Greenway Trail and adjacent communities to interior communities throughout the Southern Indiana region.

Acquisition of The South Monon Corridor will open up an additional 68 miles of trailway, extending from the present Ohio River Greenway from New Albany to the City of Bedford. The sheer magnitude of this potential provides Southern Indiana – which currently has little or no access to regional trails – with a world-class regional trail attraction, connecting our “uber” region’s urban cities with rural communities throughout the Southern third of the state.

The proposed South Monon Freedom Trail would connect five Indiana counties (Lawrence, Orange, Washington, Clark, Floyd), eight towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saltillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden,

Orleans and New Albany), and connect to three additional cities and towns (Louisville, KY, Clarksville, and Jeffersonville) by way of the 7.5 miles of the Ohio River Greenway Trail. The conversion of this former rail to a trail along the 68-mile corridor would represent the longest such trail in Indiana, containing approximately 545 acres.

The South Monon Freedom Trail completes a section of the State Visionary Trail and the American Discovery Trail systems in Clark and Floyd Counties. The Visionary Trails include the Milwaukee Road Transportation Trailway that runs through Bedford as well as the Visionary Trails and American Discovery segments that run through Clark and Floyd Counties to the Ohio River. The Trail connects two State Parks; the Clark State Forest and Deam Lake Recreation Area including the adjacent Knobstone Trail and runs within two miles of the Spring Mill State Park outside of Mitchell. The south end of the trail will connect to the Ohio River Greenway and to the 100+-mile Louisville Loop trail system.

Development along the regional trail system which would occur in Floyd County by seeking to expand to expand trail access to residents currently lacking trail amenities to access the regional benefits of the Ohio River Greenway Trail. The City of New Albany is currently in the design phase for two new extensions of the Greenway and future amenities to the New Albany Shoreline that will ultimately connect with the proposed South Monon Freedom Trail. Funding for these extensions has already been acquired and will add 32 acres of future park and connect over 8,200 New Albany residents to the Greenway.

By collaborating with Indiana Uplands, Radius and other regional partners, we are excited to take this step towards the realization of a priority of the Indiana Bicentennial Visioning Project which, in 2016, set forth a goal of linking urban and rural areas through new recreational amenity and tourism partnerships.

This phase of the project will include working directly with the Indiana Uplands READI region and Radius Indiana to acquire the 68-mile rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford that is currently owned by CSX. This phase will also include design and construction of a critical segment of trail that will link the future rails-to-trails with the Ohio River Greenway and 100+-mile Louisville Loop.





## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

Southern Indiana Trailways, Inc.

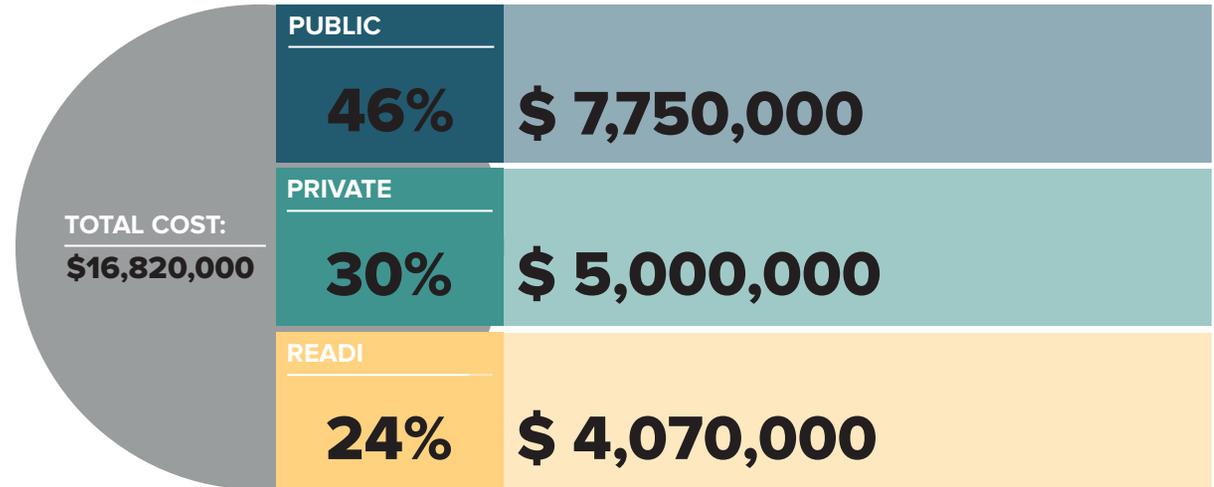
**Future Funding Sources:**

Local Cities, Towns, and Counties  
Private entities and Foundations

READI PROJECT L2

# South Monon Freedom Trail

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Indiana Uplands READI Region City of New Albany Radius Indiana
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Caesar's Foundation of Floyd County
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Floyd County Phase 2: Design and Construction	\$12,000,000
Clark & Washington Counties: Design and Construction	\$33,000,000

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$1,154,474**  
in new tax revenue



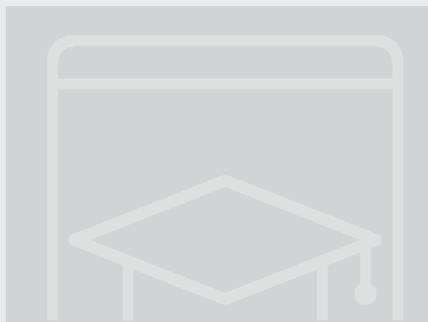
**\$8,509,252**  
in economic output



**96**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$2,580,688**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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- ✓ Bring powerful outcomes and far-reaching benefits to every community located along the 68-mile corridor.
- ✓ Enhance desirability for relocation and population growth throughout the southern Indiana region
- ✓ Connect residents and tourists alike to cultural opportunities providing economic benefits throughout south central Indiana.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for all people to be physically active and outdoors, addressing issues related to public health and chronic disease.

## PROJECT READINESS

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- ✓ Route Feasibility Complete
- ✓ Conceptual Design Complete
- ✓ South Monon Visioning Study Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- City of Salem

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Washington County Community Foundation, City of Salem Council, Washington County Economic Growth Partnership

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Lake Salinda Preliminary Alternatives (2019)*
- *Lake Salinda Campground, Site Plan (2016)*
- *Lake Salinda Bathhouse, Design (2021)*
- *Lake Salinda Remodeled Pumphouse, Design (2021)*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT L3

# Lake Salinda Trail & Bath House

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*

**Complete a walking trail connecting Lake Salinda with Salem and the future South Monon Freedom Trail, remodel the pump house to serve as retail and office space, and construct a new restroom building.**

The Lake Salinda trail project is to further develop an under-utilized asset. This 88-acre body of water is a very scenic, calming destination. To build on this 150-acre site, the city intends to add many new features. Currently, an approved art installation will be added, as well as, an electric access for camping. Just finished is a mountain bike trail of over five miles which follows the perimeter of the property. Also, soon to be installed, a new kayak launch for all ages. Coupled with shelter house picnics, the lake has even more to offer travelers. The proposed project seeks to complete a walking trail that has been engineered to gain access back to the city of Salem. A trail of approximately ten miles, start to finish, that directly addresses a Quality of Place initiative that was set out in our 2019 study. Making connectivity to this recreational area is exactly what the community input requested. This trail is equipped with resting nodes and proper signage.

Another added feature is a remodeled pump house. This facility will now have new life for retail and office space and house a café or lunch counter. This landmark building is a welcoming entrance to the property and is visible from State Route 135. With renovations made, this will drive more visitors who will have access to supplies and materials to use while visiting the lake, or on their way to other outdoor activities. A restroom will be constructed in place of an outdated current two-stall restroom building.

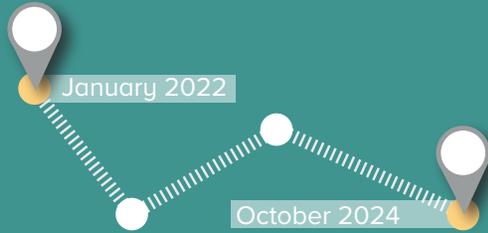
Future phases are not planned at this time, but this location has features that will welcome future improvements.





## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

City of Salem Parks and Recreation  
Department

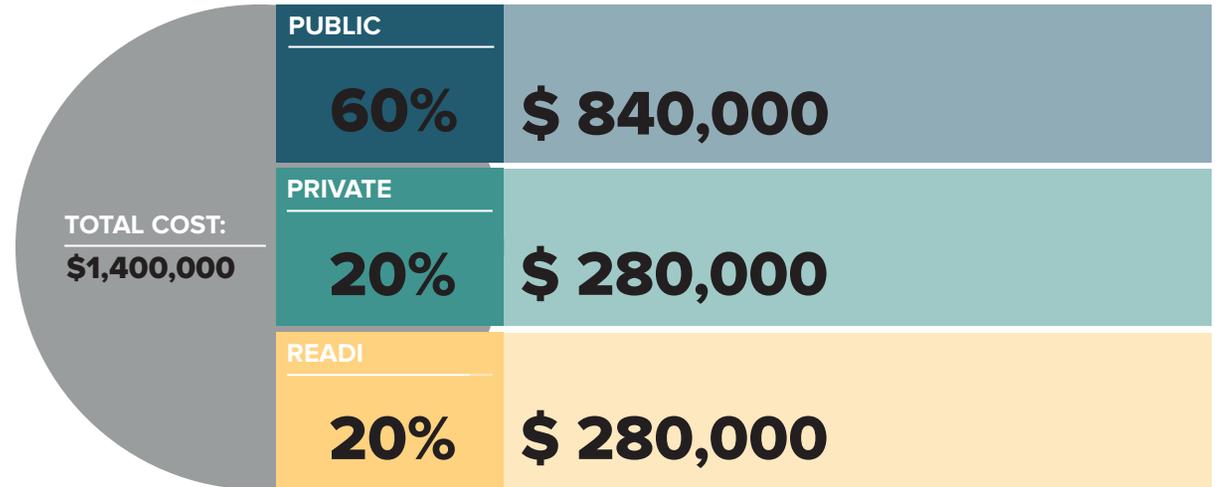
**Future Funding Sources:**

City of Salem

READI PROJECT L3

# Lake Salinda Trail & Bath House

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	City of Salem Salem Parks
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Washington County Community Foundation
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$430,750**  
in new tax revenue



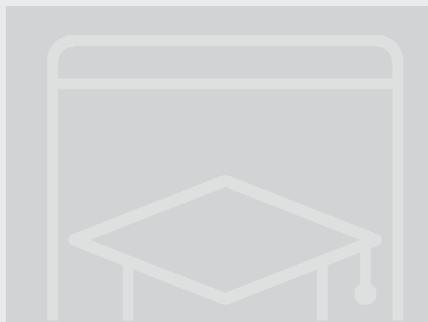
**\$1,825,037**  
in economic output



**38**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$178,428**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

---

- ✓ Draw visitors from neighboring counties and be another option for outdoor enthusiasts to escape to a rural area.
- ✓ Attract visitors to the City of Salem and impact the local economy.
- ✓ Provide a renovated pumphouse that sits on State Road 135 with easy accessibility and view. This will become a draw to enter the park or stop for a snack or shopping.
- ✓ Encourage healthy living and good mental health with outdoor activities.

## PROJECT READINESS

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- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Design Complete / Ready to Bid



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Hanover College

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- IKEC Clifty Creek Power Station, Clifty Falls State Park, City of Madison, Town of Hanover, Jefferson County

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Preliminary Cost Estimate*
- 2015 Jefferson County Strategic Action Plan
- Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



READI PROJECT L4

# Hanover-Madison Connector Trail

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*

**Build a five-mile stretch of multi-use trail linking the town of Hanover and Hanover College to Clifty Falls State Park and historic Madison, creating a major link in the world-class greenway system envisioned by the region.**

The Hanover-Madison Connector Trail (HMCT) will complete a key segment of the “world-class greenway system” with a five-mile multi-use trail. It will link the town of Hanover, Hanover College, Clifty Falls State Park, and the historic Madison, creating a unique visitor experience and a high-quality destination trail while also improving quality of life and place and driving economic development for Jefferson County and its residents. The southern end of the HMCT will link with a lightly traveled local road with spectacular Ohio River views, extending the route another 7.6 miles south and moving the region closer to achieving a scenic greenway linking Jefferson County to Charlestown State Park, Origin Park, New Albany, and the trail networks of the Louisville metropolitan area. The HMCT also overlaps and extends two national trails -- the American Discovery Trail and the Adventure Cycling Route -- benefiting cyclists and hikers throughout the United States.

The HMCT will begin in Madison at the Heritage Trail and travel south along SR 56/Clifty Hollow Road past the entrance to Clifty Falls State Park. Crossing SR 56/Clifty Hollow Road near the IKEC Power Plant entrance, the HMCT will follow an abandoned county road along IKE property,

cross into Hanover College, then climb to the hilltop along an established College trail route. This path also will connect to existing “closed loop” trails in the municipalities, the College, and the state park. This route will provide a safe, pedestrian- and bike-friendly trail between Hanover, Clifty Falls State Park, and Madison, where there currently is none.

Land for the HMTC route is controlled by two contiguous property holders: Hanover College and the IKEC Clifty Creek Generating Station. Clifty Falls State Park and the City of Madison control the right of way along State Road 55/Clifty Hollow Road. All four entities, the Town of Hanover, and Jefferson County enthusiastically support the HMCT. Both IKEC and Hanover College are willing to enter into easement agreements, clearing the way for land acquisition and eliminating the most significant, time-consuming hurdle for trail projects. The limited number of owners and their high degree of cooperation have created a rare opportunity to move forward quickly to develop a high-quality destination trail. With funding, the project could start construction in Spring 2023.

The HMCT will improve health, quality of place, and quality of life for area residents, linking the county's two largest municipalities with a safe route for pedestrians and bicyclists and facilitating the active movement of residents, state park visitors, and Hanover students. A trail linking the historic Madison downtown with Clifty Falls and one of the nation's most scenic college campuses will be a major tourist destination. The MHCT will create a unique visitor experience bringing economic benefit to area businesses and attracting additional residents to the region. The Connector will enhance both downtowns, attract additional Hanover students, and promote the region's natural features. The HMCT also will serve as a fitting trail head for the world-class greenway system envisioned in the *Our Region | Our Plan* document. With CR 310-W/River Bottom Road part of the route at little or no additional cost, the trail could be extended another 7.6 miles to the foot of Saluda Hill. For five miles of trail investment, our region will gain almost 13 miles of scenic greenway.

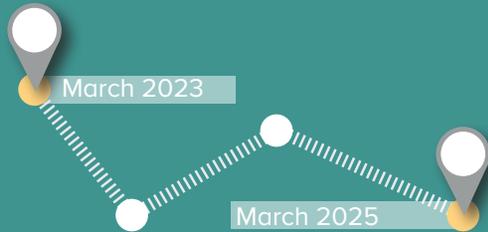
This phase of the project will include design and right-of-way. Future phases will include construction based on funding.





## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

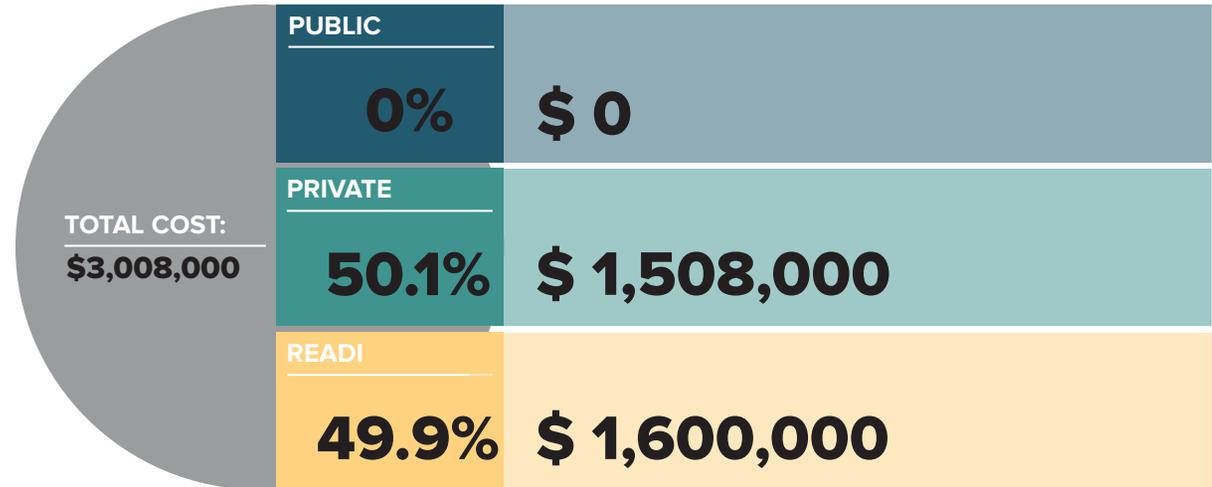
City of Madison, the Town of Hanover and Jefferson County

**Future Funding Sources:**

Determine funding sources as needed and appropriate

# Hanover-Madison Connector Trail

*Regional Trail Initiative Implementation*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	N/A
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	IKE Clifty Creek Power Plant Hanover College
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Construction of Trail	\$11,290,000

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$1,761,736**  
in new tax revenue



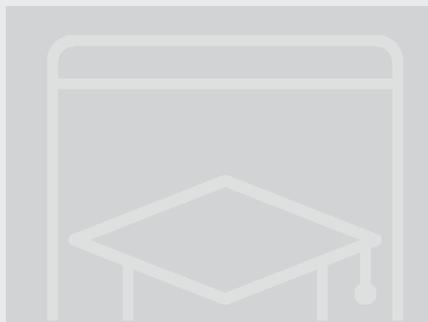
**\$11,888,496**  
in economic output



**145**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$3,626,076**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- ✓ Improve quality of life and quality of place by facilitating active movement between the Town of Hanover, Hanover College, Clifty Falls State Park, and Madison.
- ✓ Develop an active living program which includes infrastructure improvements.
- ✓ Create a safe, pedestrian-friendly route where there currently is none, improving access to downtown Madison of county residents (including Hanover's 1,100 students).
- ✓ Develop a major destination that leverages existing assets to attract new visitors and new residents, as well as leverage existing visitors to the park, college, and historic Madison.
- ✓ Establish a major trail head and trail segment of the "world class greenway system" envisioned by our region.

## PROJECT READINESS

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Route Feasibility Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Clark County

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- River Ridge, Jeffersonville, Sellersburg, Clark County Regional Airport, INDOT, Local Industries

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- Commerce Connector Engineer's Report
- Clark County Transportation Capital Improvement Plan
- Clark County Transportation Plan
- Clark County 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- Connecting Kentuckiana 2040 (KIPDA Metropolitan Transportation Plan)

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



READI PROJECT M

# Commerce Connector

*Connecting River Ridge to US 31*

**Provide a critical link between River Ridge and I-65 to alleviate congestion on IN-62, support development at the north end of River Ridge, and provide access to 2,500 acres for future development.**

This 3.6-mile, limited access roadway will provide a critical connection from the northern section of River Ridge (IN-62) to I-65 and the Clark County Regional Airport. This new route would provide access to approximately 2,500 acres that is prime for industrial and residential development.

Since the completion of two new bridge crossings between Louisville and Clark County (Lewis and Clark Bridge and Lincoln Bridge), development in this area of the region has grown rapidly and placed additional pressures on the existing transportation network. River Ridge alone now has a workforce over 10,000 people and residential development is expanding as well. Development at the northern portion of River Ridge is reliant upon a more efficient route to the interstate.

Limited connections are available between the northern section of River Ridge and I-65 as well as the Clark County Airport. While the new heavy haul road can accommodate many heavy vehicles, IN-62 is still the primary route to not only River Ridge but also Charlestown, Madison, and Jefferson County. Highway 403 is the only other alternative route to serve these areas.

Commerce Connector would be a 3.6-mile, limited access roadway with four travel lanes, It crosses multiple local jurisdictions, including unincorporated Clark County, Jeffersonville, and Sellersburg and also includes River Ridge as a critical partner. It is key that this new roadway preserves the level of service to allow for minimal delays. Key access points will allow land that is prime for residential development to be built. These hundreds of acres are just waiting for this access to take off. This new residential development can support future development at River Ridge.

Commerce Connector will provide a safer and faster connection for commuters that come from the entire region while providing access for new residential development to support the new jobs being created.

The first phase of this project will include final design and property acquisition for the entire corridor in addition to construction from IN-62 to Salem Noble Road. Construction of the Commerce Connector from Salem Noble Road to US 31 will occur in phase 2.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**



**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

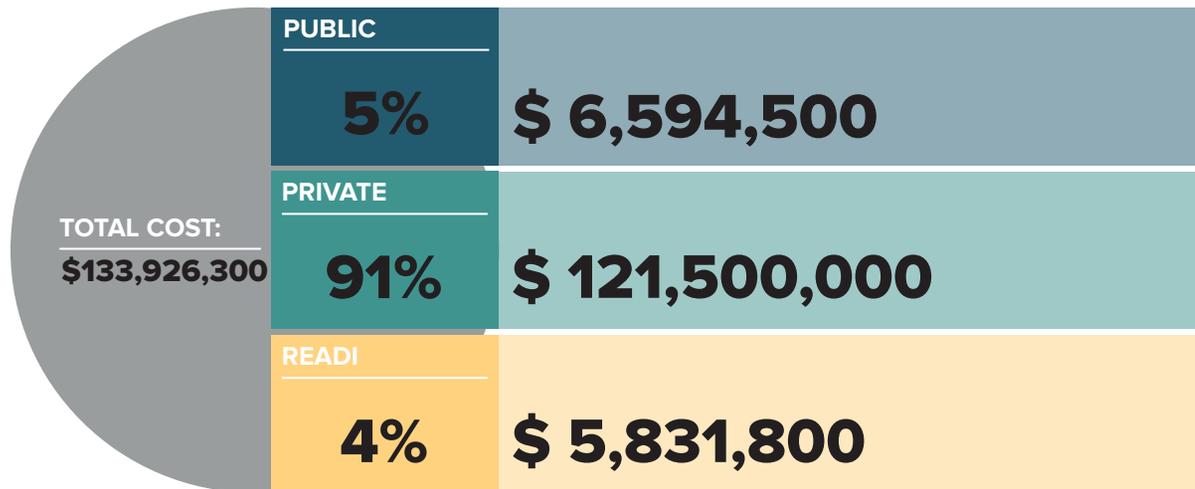
**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**  
Clark County Highway Department

**Future Funding Sources:**  
Clark County Roadway Maintenance Funds, MVH and LRS through INDOT

READI PROJECT M

# Commerce Connector

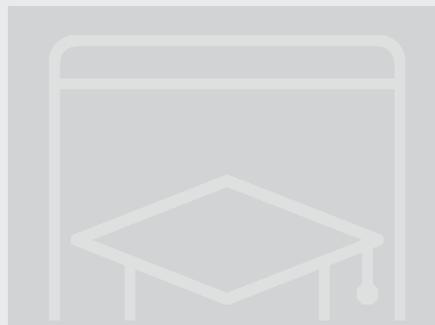
Connecting River Ridge to US 31



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Clark County
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Construction of Road from Salem Noble Road to US 31	\$17,253,700

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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-  Provide access for approximately 2,500 acres of industrial and residential development.
-  Relieve congestion along IN-62 by providing a limited access roadway between the north section of River Ridge and Exit 7 of I-65.
-  Promote and support development on the north section of River Ridge; many potential companies desire a more direct connection to an interstate.
-  Provide access to hundreds of acres of undeveloped land for residential development along the corridor.

## PROJECT READINESS

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-  Control of Property
-  Properly Zoned
-  Route Feasibility Study Complete
-  Preliminary Design Complete



## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECT LEADER

- Town of Sellersburg

### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- INDOT, Sellersburg Wastewater, Sellersburg Water, Form G, Sprigler Development, Clark County, Floyd County, Town of Clarksville, Sellersburg Redevelopment, Ivy Tech Sellersburg

### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Sellersburg 2040 Comprehensive Plan*
- *Sellersburg 2021 Unified Development Ordinance*
- *North/Northwest Sellersburg Wastewater Impact*
- *Sellersburg Redevelopment Camp Run Road Extension*
- *INDOT/Sellersburg Poindexter Road, Camp Run, SR-60 Traffic Study*

### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



READI PROJECT N

# Sellersburg Town Center District

**Develop a new 275-acre Town Center District that connects multiple municipalities, provides a destination retail experience, builds high-density housing, and creates a distinct image for the town and gateway.**

The area north of CR 311 at Camp Run Parkway is targeted for a new town center that would allow multiple uses, improve connectivity, define the community’s character, and create a destination within Sellersburg. The town is planning an extension of Camp Run Parkway that would connect CR 311 to IN 60 at Poindexter Lane.

The Town is starting construction of the \$4 million Camp Run Road corridor road project to connect SR 60 and CR 311 with expected completion in Summer of 2022. These traffic improvements will also positively impact residents from Clarksville, Clark County, Floyd County, and Washington County that use SR 60 and CR 311.

As part of the development of the Town Center District, sewer capacity will be expanded with the development of the Northwest Regional Wastewater Pumping Station (NRWPS). This station will provide additional wastewater service to the Town Center District as well as provide wastewater service to currently unserved areas of unincorporated Clark County and Floyd County. The additional benefit of the NRWPS will be within our collections system to the north and east of town. Because of the

redirected flows as part of the NRWPS, the existing force main along US-31 from Perry Crossing south will have the current flows cut by 75%. As a result of the relief provided, the Town will be able to do long needed maintenance and improvements that would again result in expansion of wastewater service to currently unserved areas of unincorporated Clark County.

Upon completion of the NRWPS, the Town will look to expand roadway and stormwater infrastructure within the Town Center District.

This phase of the project includes design and construction of Camp Run Parkway that will serve as the primary roadway through the district. It will also include acquisition of the land required for the full project so the town can ensure the vision is implemented. Future phases will include the remaining infrastructure that will be constructed as private development occurs.





**PROJECT PROFILE**

**PROJECTED TIMELINE**



**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

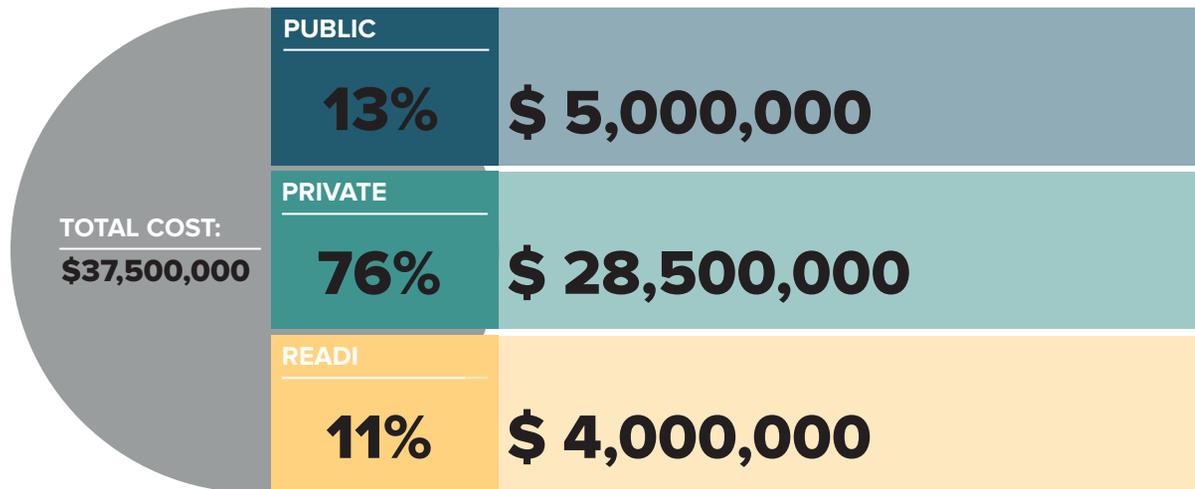
Town of Sellersburg  
Sellersburg Wastewater

**Future Funding Sources:**

Town of Sellersburg Roadway  
Maintenance Funds  
Utility User Rates

READI PROJECT N

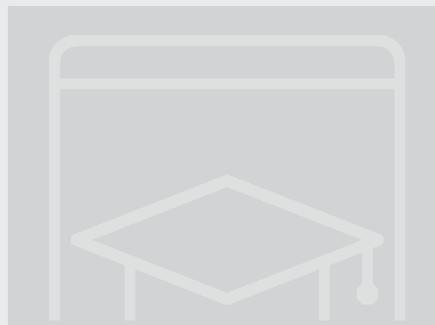
**Sellersburg Town Center District**



**FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN**

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Sellersburg Redevelopment Commission
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
Regional Wastewater Project/Regional Stormwater Basin/Water Loop	\$8,000,000

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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- ✓ Business attraction/establishment of new economic focus area in central Clark County (275 acres off I-65 at exit 9)
- ✓ Improved traffic congestion along SR-60
- ✓ Improved access to/from I-65 at exit 9
- ✓ Expansion of wastewater service in unserved/underserved areas of Clark/Floyd County
- ✓ Improvement of wastewater service within the current wastewater service area of Sellersburg

## PROJECT READINESS

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- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Private Developer Commitment
- ✓ Conceptual Design of Entire District Complete
- ✓ Design (Camp Run Parkway) Complete/ Ready to Bid



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Clark County; Floyd County; Jefferson County; Scott County; Senator Chris Garten, Broadband Service Providers

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- Clark County Comprehensive Plan
- Floyd County Comprehensive Plan
- Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan
- Washington County Quality of Life Plan
- Scott County Vision Plan

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT O

# Regional Broadband Readiness Plan

### *Regional Broadband Initiative*

**Improve regional high speed broadband infrastructure and services in urban, suburban, and rural areas through partnerships with regional providers to ensure that Southern Indiana retains its competitive edge and provides for residential amenities.**

Reliable and fast internet service is increasingly relied upon as an essential part of our everyday lives. From enrolling in e-learning classes, to researching school assignments, working from home, participating in a telehealth consultation, ordering groceries, applying for a job and filing a critical work deadline, the pandemic has increased our reliance on affordable, reliable internet service.

However, while the world seems to revolve around the internet and its supporting infrastructure, 24% of rural adults across the country report that access to the internet is a major problem in their local community. The PEW Research Center also reported that nationwide, nearly six in ten rural Americans believe access to high-speed internet is a problem in their area.

Our region needs to complete a Regional Broadband Readiness Plan. Southern Indiana is not immune to the nationwide concerns centered on broadband infrastructure. Indiana has focused on broadband infrastructure, especially in rural areas, by initiating both planning and implementation grant programs for broadband study and expansion. The programs seek to not only identify the system's gaps, but partner communities with broadband service providers to facilitate implementation and system improvements.

Broadband or high-speed internet capability allows users to access the internet at significantly higher speeds than those available through traditional dial-up services. Access to broadband and other communication services in rural, suburban, and urban areas is and will continue to remain critical for a functioning 21st-century economy. In rural areas, broadband infrastructure is expected to be an important factor that contributes to business investment and job creation as well as general economic growth, especially within the disciplines of telemedicine, education, and farming.

Beyond its importance as economic infrastructure, access to the internet is also a key component of quality of place. There are a number of factors in the rural segments of Southern Indiana that many people find desirable – in particular, the scenic hills and other natural amenities that are a unique asset. But in order to remain attractive, especially to families and young professionals, there is an increasing need for these areas to become connected to the reliable and fast internet.

As future generations identify locations in which to settle down and raise families, the economic and educational opportunities that broadband infrastructure provides are critical. Internet access and quality of service were both frequently named topics in RDA board meetings and in stakeholder and project leadership group conversations.

There has never been a time in our state's history where more funding has been allocated for broadband. The Indiana Next Level Connections Broadband Program will invest \$270 Million toward improving broadband access throughout the State. The Our Southern Indiana RDA is willing to lead in ensuring our underserved communities fully maximize this opportunity to enhance our regional broadband service to businesses, residents and institutions. Improvements to the regional infrastructure within Southern Indiana will ensure that the region stays economically competitive and establishes a high quality of life for current and future residents.

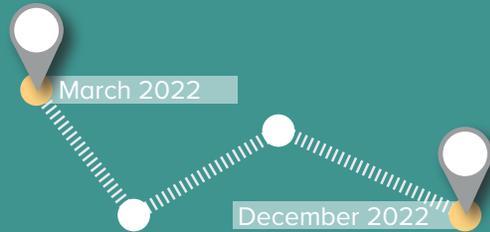




# INFRASTRUCTURE

## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

Our Southern Indiana RDA  
County Commissioners

**Future Funding Sources:**

N/A

READI PROJECT O

# Regional Broadband Readiness Plan

*Regional Broadband Initiative*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Clark County Floyd County Jefferson County Scott County
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Community Foundations Broadband Service Providers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



Create a Regional Broadband Readiness Plan so that local leaders will have an action plan to address broadband needs.



Coordinate improvements with the region's various service providers, and, as necessary, assist in funding applications, progress communication, and community outreach.



Develop and implement affordable and reliable broadband enhancement plans to better connect Southern Indiana to the world.



## PROJECT READINESS

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Coordination with Residents and Businesses



Coordination with Providers



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Salem Board of Aviation

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- City of Salem, Washington County Economic Growth Partnership, Washington County Commissioners, Washington County Council, Washington County Redevelopment Commission

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *City of Salem 9 Phase Development*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



### READI PROJECT P

## Salem Municipal Airport

### *Hanger & Fueling Improvements*

**Complete critical landside improvements in conjunction with a runway extension project funded through FAA to drive economic development for the region through improvements to hanger spaces, a fixed Jet-A fuel point, and extension of utilities.**

The Salem Municipal Airport Capital Improvement Plan approved by the FAA will extend the current runway to 5,000 feet from the existing 3,000 feet (opened in 2019). This expansion and growth, funded 90% by FAA, 5% by the state, and 5% by local sources when completed, will result in new and expanded economic development opportunities. However, there are other capital infrastructure projects not eligible for FAA grant funding that are needed to maximize the airport's ability to better serve and accommodate the local, regional, national, and international air operations for local and transient pilots, passengers, and aircraft making use of the extended runway. This airport serves many neighboring communities in the region, and is a near base access point for business, industry, employers, and travelers alike.

The Salem Municipal Airport will make improvements to the existing T-Hangar, a new 10 Unit T-Hangar, 80' x 80' maintenance hangar, grading & paving of lease space for private hangars, drainage Improvements, a fixed Jet-A Fuel point and the extension of water supply, sanitary sewer and drainage improvements. All of these items are outside of FAA grant funding but are critical to economic development within the region. While the runway extension will open opportunities for the airport, improvements to the landside amenities are vital to being competitive.





# INFRASTRUCTURE

## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

**Entity Responsible for Maintenance:**

Board of Aviation Commissioners

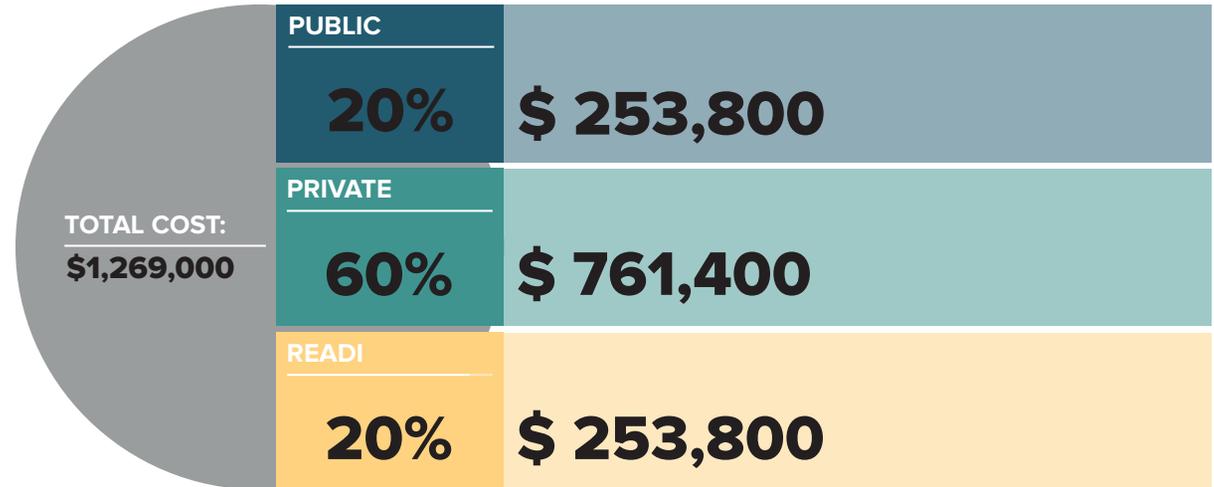
**Future Funding Sources:**

Board of Aviation Commissioners  
Maintenance Budget

READI PROJECT P

# Salem Municipal Airport

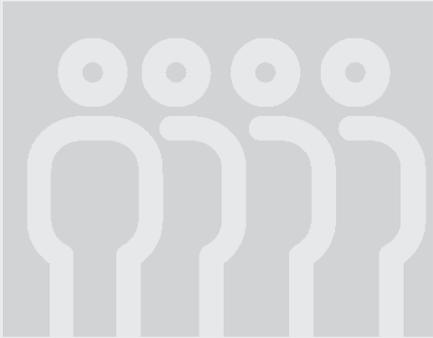
*Hanger & Fueling Improvements*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Board of Aviation Washington County
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Airport Users
FUTURE PHASE(S)	
N/A	N/A

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



**\$154,086**  
in new tax revenue



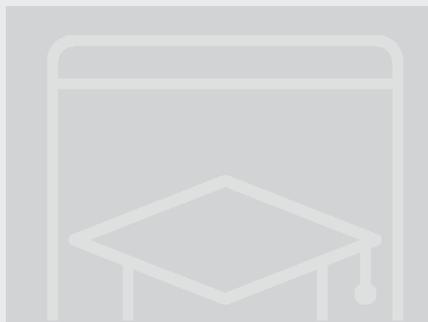
**\$1,797,170**  
in economic output



**12**  
new direct and  
indirect jobs



**\$645,445**  
total new wages



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

- ✓ Attract corporate and industrial relocation to the Salem area with airport enhancements.
- ✓ Take advantage of the overcrowding at the Metropolitan Louisville area airports by providing an alternative for private and corporate air traffic.
- ✓ Compete favorably with Metro Louisville airports for hangar rentals and fuel sales due to lower overhead costs of operation.
- ✓ Welcome tourists and business people to Washington County, while also being the gateway to tourist attractions and business in Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Orange, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence and Scott Counties.

## PROJECT READINESS

- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ FAA Approval



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- River Ridge Development Authority, City of Jeffersonville, City of Charlestown

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Town of Utica; Clark County

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *River Ridge Economic Impact Report, 2020*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



READI PROJECT Q1 | Q2

# Wastewater Capacity at River Ridge

*Charlestown & Jeffersonville Wastewater Capacity Expansion*

**Provide critical wastewater capacity to future tenants at River Ridge Commerce Center who produced an estimated \$2.5 billion in economic output in 2020.**

River Ridge Development Authority (RRDA) was established in 1998 to allow a mechanism for local units of government to redevelop the former Army Ammunition Plant. Even with the excitement for transformation back then, few could imagine the regional economic engine that the River Ridge Commerce Center would become 25 years later.

According to an Economic Impact Analysis conducted by Policy Analytics in early 2021, the River Ridge Commerce Center produced an estimated total of \$2.5 billion in economic output in 2020. The business activity at River Ridge helped create or support over 17,500 jobs across a variety of sectors, equating to \$700 million in labor income for the Southern Indiana/Louisville region.

Despite the national pandemic-induced recession, private development continued at a strong pace in 2020, with approximately \$143 million in capital development. Structures developed by VanTrust Real Estate, PharmaCord and HempRise were all substantially completed last year, and significant projects by America Place and Gray Construction are underway. Hollenback-Oakley also broke ground on the first Class A office building at River Ridge's new Gateway Office and Research Campus.

While the RRDA has invested over \$250 million in infrastructure improvements such as roads, utilities, and rail infrastructure as well as environmental expenses, it is estimated that an additional \$300 million in future infrastructure improvements are necessary to develop the entirety of this property. And this remarkable evolution of River Ridge – from an abandoned Army facility to an economic powerhouse – could come to a dead stop if wastewater capacity is not increased to accommodate the exponential growth.

The 6,000 acre park is served by two wastewater jurisdictions controlled by the City of Jeffersonville and the City of Charlestown. Currently, Charlestown provides wastewater treatment for those companies located within the Charlestown portion of the RRDA, and Jeffersonville provides treatment for those companies located within Jeffersonville. Both treatment plants, however, are nearing capacity and expansion plans are presently being developed.

- The City of Charlestown is planning to increase the capacity of its wastewater treatment plan from 2.2 MGD to 3.5 to 4.5 MGD at a total cost (hard and soft costs) of \$32.45 million. The size of the proposed wastewater treatment plan has been based upon projections related to the anticipated economic growth at the RRDA and the anticipated growth within and around the City of Charlestown.

- In 2011, the City of Jeffersonville built a 3.0 MGD North Wastewater Treatment Plant in River Ridge at a cost of \$25 million. This plant has a current usage between 1.9-2.3 MGD based upon the average daily flow. Jeffersonville is planning an expansion to double the current capacity to 6.0 MGD to serve new industrial growth at River Ridge (including the 1,000 acre Mega-site) and approximately 2,500 residents in Charlestown, the Town of Utica and areas of Clark County.

But time is of the essence. On nearly a daily basis, the RRDA receives requests for information from companies looking to locate to or expand within River Ridge. Providing adequate wastewater treatment for these companies is a primary concern to continue development. Expansion of each community's wastewater services is imperative.

Regionalism is alive and well in Southern Indiana. We may compete against each other in athletic competitions, but for our economic future, we work together. This project will look comprehensively at the expansion of both sewer districts in conjunction with future growth at River Ridge.

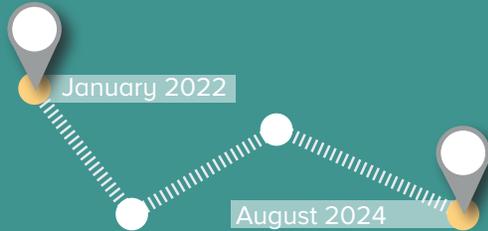




# INFRASTRUCTURE

## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

#### Entity Responsible for Maintenance:

City of Charlestown  
City of Jeffersonville

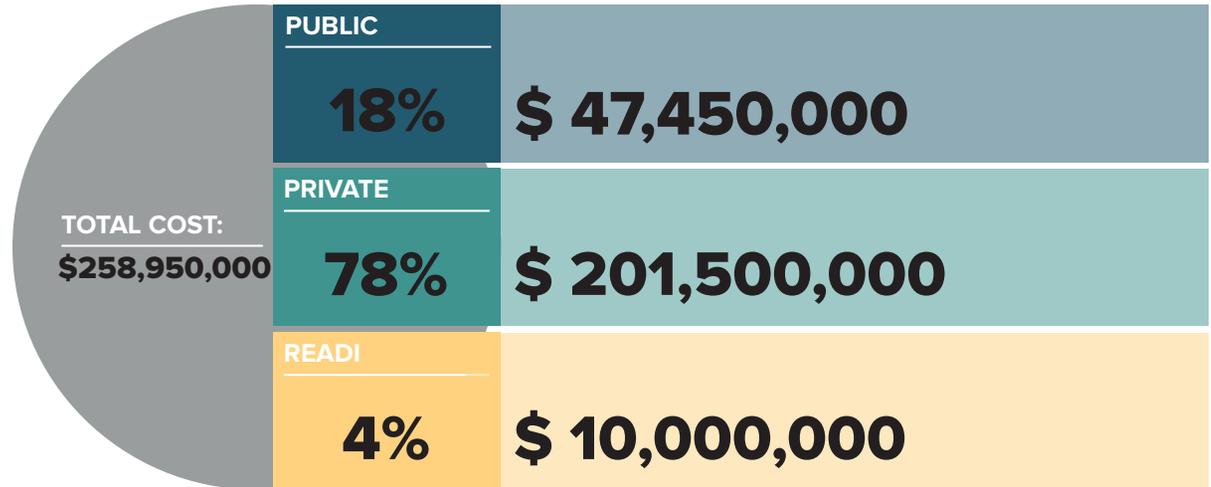
#### Future Funding Sources:

User fees

READI PROJECT Q1 | Q2

# Wastewater Capacity at River Ridge

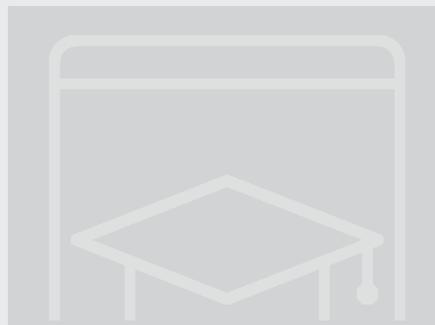
*Charlestown & Jeffersonville Wastewater Capacity Expansion*



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	City of Charlestown City of Jeffersonville River Ridge Development Authority
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	User Rates Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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- ✓ Expand sewer capacity that is critical for continued growth at River Ridge.
- ✓ Provide capacity for population growth – with a special emphasis on workforce housing – in all communities immediately surrounding River Ridge.
- ✓ Provide secondary job and business growth as population growth and density increase.

## PROJECT READINESS

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- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Private Developer Commitment
- ✓ Preliminary Design Complete (Charlestown)
- ✓ Design Complete/Ready to Bid (Jeffersonville)



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### PROJECT PROFILE

#### PROJECT LEADER

- Town of Borden

#### ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- Partner

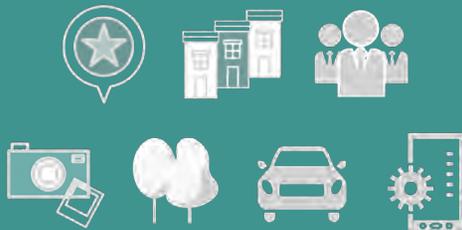
#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Wood Township of Clark County, and Clark County Government, Starlight Foundation and SOIN Tourism, : Koetter Woodworking, Inc., Smith Creek Wood Products, Huber’s Orchard, Winery & Vineyards; and Joe Huber’s Family Farm and Restaurant, Borden Tri-County Water Company

#### PREVIOUS PLANS AND STUDIES

- *Feasibility Study*

#### PROJECT GOAL CATEGORIES



## READI PROJECT R

# Star Valley Destinations

Wastewater Capacity for Residents & Tourism

**Complete wastewater plant capacity upgrades and repairs in addition to installing a sewer line from the existing plant in Borden to Starlight to support existing and planned tourism and residential.**

Starlight is home to Borden’s existing tourism sites: Huber’s Orchard, Winery & Vineyards; and Joe Huber’s Family Farm and Restaurant. Starlight will also be home to the planned Quadrant Hotel and several planned residential development sites.

Starlight businesses and attractions are reaching the limits of their individual septic systems and a capacity expansion is required to support future growth. As soon as this capacity upgrade and new line is complete, investors are ready to break ground for both a new housing subdivision and the new hotel. Other developments are planned within the next few years. This new infrastructure will also support planned commercial development sites (retail shops, entertainment venues, a restaurant, and chalets) planned for Star Valley.

Phase 1 will include capacity upgrades and repairs of existing lines to reduce infiltration and inflow throughout the existing system. Phase 2 will include a new sewer line from Borden to Starlight to serve a new hotel, tourism destinations, and residential subdivisions.

Our team is working with Clark County to put Tax Increment Financing (TIF) in place within the expanded service area and intend to use these funds as a part of an overall funding package for the sewer system repairs and upgrades.

It is important to note that Borden is not eligible for OCRA funding because our town survey LMI is a few thousand dollars over the limit. But that said, most Borden’s 808 civic residents have low to modest income, and the town does not have sufficient tax revenue to fund this type of tourism expansion.

But that said, we are highly motivated to grow Star Valley and Starlight into a regional, and eventually national, tourism destination. We believe that the clarity of our vision and the passion of our core of volunteers and workers is turning our small town into a big opportunity for the state of Indiana. More information about our vision and plans can be found at (<http://www.starvalleydestinations.com>).

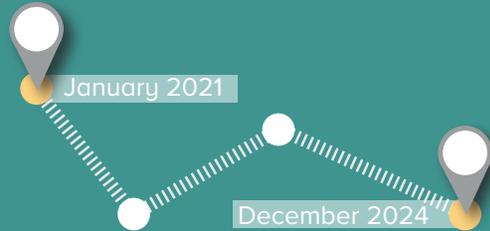




# INFRASTRUCTURE

## PROJECT PROFILE

### PROJECTED TIMELINE



### PROJECT MAINTENANCE

#### Entity Responsible for Maintenance:

Borden Wastewater Utility

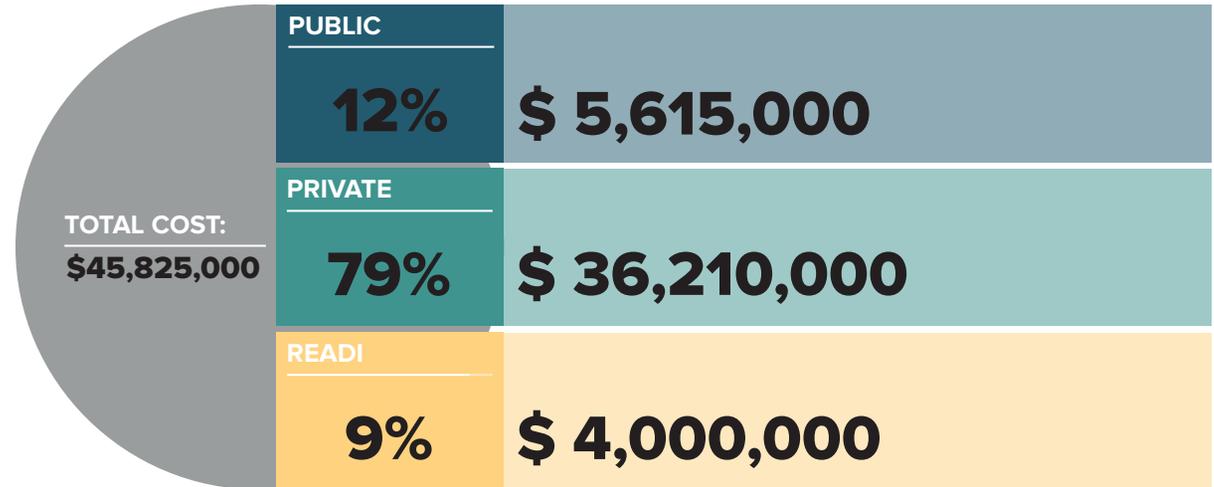
#### Future Funding Sources:

- Borden Wastewater Utility Maintenance Funds
- User Revenues

READI PROJECT R

# Star Valley Destinations

Wastewater Capacity for Residents & Tourism



### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN

PHASE POTENTIALLY FUNDED BY READI	
Local Public Funding Source(s)	Town of Borden Wood Township Clark County
Private & Other Funding Source(s)	Starlight Foundation Soln Tourism Private Developers
FUTURE PHASE(S)	

# DESIRED OUTCOMES



## OTHER POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

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- ✓ Increase length of stay for existing visitors to Starlight attractions.
- ✓ Increase viability of local properties for commercial and residential development.
- ✓ Spur small town/rural economic development and jobs creation.
- ✓ Strengthen brand recognition as a regional, and then national, tourism hub.

## PROJECT READINESS

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- ✓ Control of Property
- ✓ Properly Zoned
- ✓ Private Developer Commitment
- ✓ Feasibility Study Complete

## RDA-Supported Efforts

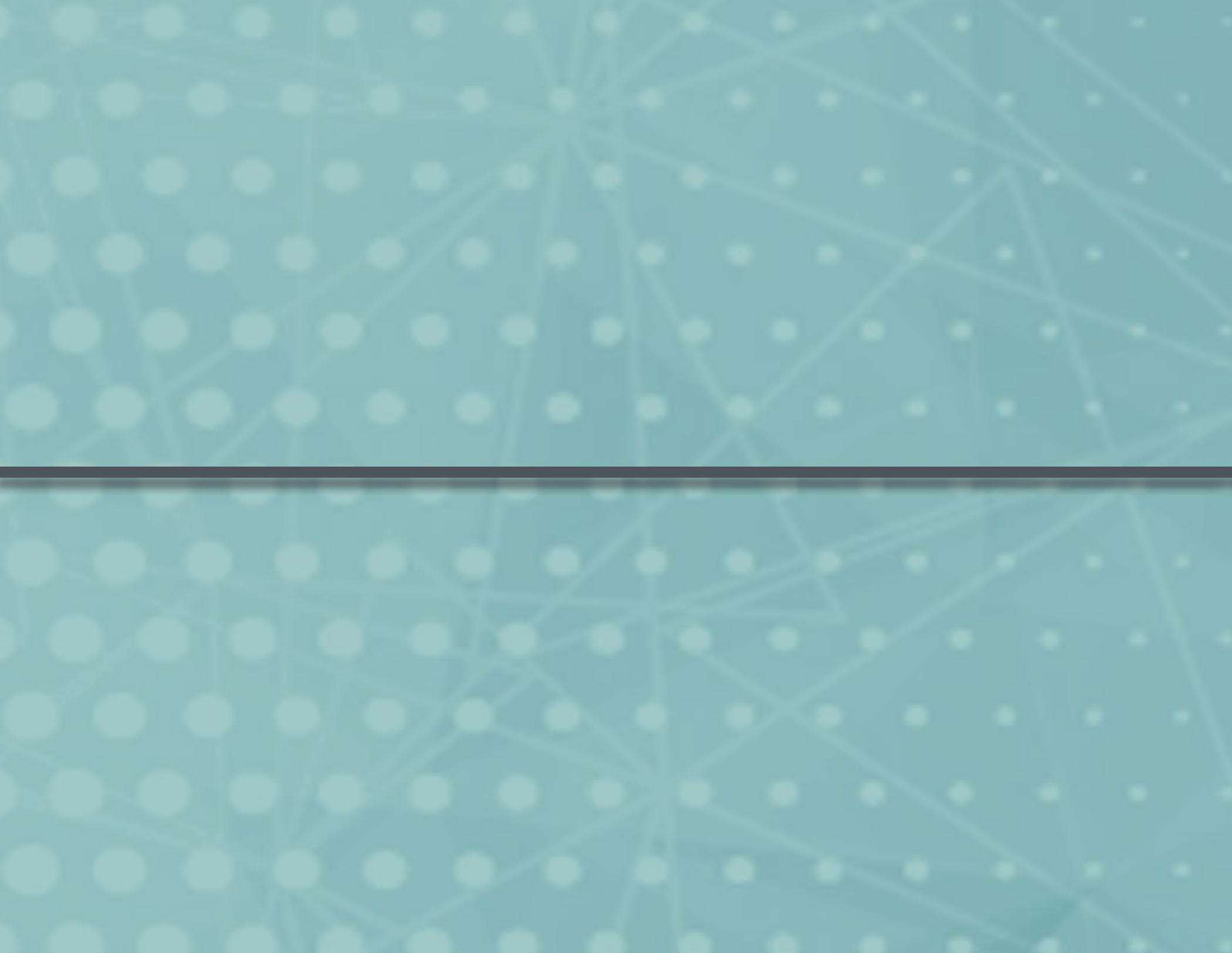
As outlined previously, the *Our Region | Our Plan* process worked to define the benefits or value added of the RDA organization while also identifying ways that the RDA could participate in both local and regional initiatives. The following matrix identifies quality of life and economic development projects at the county and local level. The identified projects were determined to be projects that the Our Southern Indiana RDA board could support because the goals of the project align with the RDA's organizational purpose and powers. For these identified projects, the RDA board would offer input and thought as necessary and can work to provide necessary political support. For more information on the identified projects and how the RDA's resources can be applied to each, refer to the *County Work Plans*.

## SUPPORTER PROJECTS

Workforce; Madison, IN
Jefferson Proving Ground Airport & Infrastructure Development, Jefferson County
Indoor Recreation Center at the Washington County YMCA, Salem
Madison Ohio Theatre
Mid America Science Park High School & Adult Training
SolIN Conference & Event Center
Infrastructure Development for Southwest Jefferson, Northeast Clark & Southeast Scott County
New Pekin Apartments
Building 40 Lofts - 1201 North Clark Blvd., Clarksville
Memphis Blue-Lick Corridor
Coding for the future: Jeffersonville & Clarksville
Star Valley Destinations - Project 2 - History
Wisdom Workshop / 4H Purdue Extension Building
CR-403 Improvements from Sellersburg to Charlestown
Building 8 Loft - 1201 North Clark Blvd., Clarksville
Eleven Fifty Academy Coding Bootcamp
Town of New Pekin (Park Updating)
Innovate WithIN Pitch Competition
Small starts. Big finishes.

Empower Southern Indiana
Southern Indiana Regional Public Safety Training Center
Mardi Gras in Southern Indiana
Fields for All - 404 Durgee Road, New Albany
180 Skills online skills training to employers, educators, and workforce
Southern Indiana Maker Network
Talent Pipeline Development Targeting the Local Justice System
LifeSpan Resources
Clark County Regional Airport Improvements
Downtown Redevelopment
Industrial Redevelopment
Jeff Boat Redevelopment
Regional Water Supply
Retail Redevelopment
SR 60 Improvements (Salem to Grant Line Road)
Scottsburg Bypass
Charlestown State Park Improvements
Intermodal Facilities (Port of Indiana, River Ridge, and Industrial Sites)
Outer Loop By-Pass for Austin and Scottsburg
Regional Commuter System (Salem, Madison, Scottsburg)
SR 56 Improvements
Substance Abuse Programs

# Supporter Projects



# 9

CHAPTER NINE

## OUR Investment Strategy

Results in More Than Just Dollars

OUR

↑ HIGHWAY 160  
⇨ WILCOX LAKE  
⇨ BOWEN LAKE  
⇨ GUN RANGE

⇨ WILCOX LAKE  
⇨ BOWEN LAKE



As a region, Our Southern Indiana understands that we have a big vision, and our big vision includes a lot of big projects and big programs. However, we also understand that not everything can be completed at once or within a few short years. Progress can occur quickly but transformation is usually achieved through multi-phased projects and programs. Because of this our region agreed upon and adopted a project scorecard in 2019 as part of *Our Region | Our Plan*. Without knowing there was a future funding source, our region realized the need to be able to objectively measure a project's impact, regional importance, and catalytic ability to create momentum that cannot be stopped.

## OUR Scorecard

*Our Region | Our Plan* was drafted in 2019 and included a scorecard that was intended to be used to evaluate and prioritize projects as funding became available. In 2021, the scorecard was modified to reflect the issues addressing the world around us. More importantly, our scorecard was intended to set the groundwork for any future scorecards or prioritization processes by gaining consensus from the region's leaders on criteria that should and would be used by the RDA in the future. This consensus made the process of ranking projects for READI much easier and streamlined.

The scorecard, adopted in 2019 and modified in 2021, includes criteria that targets the plan's goals, project readiness, regional impact, and diversity/equity concerns. This scorecard formed the basis of prioritization as the region prepared for READI. Minor changes were made to the scorecard to reflect the need to balance projects among the plan's seven priorities in order to achieve a comprehensive approach to economic development.

# Regional Score Card

For use by the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

	SCORING RANGE					
REGIONAL IMPACT	Low		Mid		High	
<b>Regional Impact and Community Inclusion</b>						
Does the project submission adequately describe the regional impact and benefit to multiple communities?						
<b>GENERAL CRITERIA</b>						
<b>General Information and Project Readiness</b>						
Is the identified project within the RDA's purpose and powers?						
Can the project be improved or furthered by the RDA's involvement?						
Does the project have public buy-in (meaning is it supported by local municipalities/county, included public input, and/or a completed feasibility/planning document)?						
Does the project have a financial plan for implementation?						
Does the project leverage other investments such as city, town, county, or private resources?						
<b>Project Maintenance and Sustainability</b>						
Does the project have an assigned responsible party for long-term maintenance?						
Does the project have a funding stream for long-term maintenance?						
Does the project have a maintenance plan to ensure it is sustainable?						
<b>Diversity &amp; Equity</b>						
Does the project allow show value to all residents and visitors, including those disadvantaged, so that everyone can feel included?						
Does the project positively support or allow for wealth creation of low-income residents?						
Does the project displace or negatively impact minority or at-risk populations?						

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CRITERIA	SCORING RANGE					
	Low		Mid		High	
<b>Destinations – Does the project create and nurture great destinations for present and future residents and visitors?</b>						
Does the project support our distinctive downtowns, promote investment in these areas, or increase our quality of place?						
Does the project provide a unique visitor experience, support, and attract visitors, and/or increase tourism in the region?						
Does the project provide entertainment, amenities, or services for visitors as well as current and/or future residents?						
Does the project benefit a wider geography, including opportunities for rural areas to benefit?						
<b>Workforce - Does the project align education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and ensure that the region's workforce adequately fulfills the employment opportunities available in the region?</b>						
Does the project increase the quality of place to attract and retain residents within the region?						
Does the project attract or retain high-skill jobs with wages that increase our region's livable wage standard (raise the average pay wage)?						
Does the project support or further our higher-education institutions, advance degree programs, or research capabilities in the region?						
Does the project increase the competitiveness of our schools through programs, resources, or increased student population?						
Does the project support entrepreneurs in the region?						
Does the project support or aid in the development of complete workplaces by integrating public transit, employee access to natural amenities, childcare, health or fitness facilities/programs, workforce housing, restaurants, or other uses that support a signature employment campus setting?						
Does the project support the viability of agricultural businesses in the region?						
<b>Economic Development – Does the project pursue catalytic development that spurs investment in the region's quality jobs, housing, public spaces, and infrastructure?</b>						
Does the project rehabilitate an underutilized or abandoned site and/or structure?						
Does the project support or contribute to a regional retail center with mixed-use, walkable destinations?						
Does the project reinvest in a downtown through streetscape, historic preservation, or other elements that make a downtown a destination?						
Does the project develop or promote diverse, affordable, and amenity-rich neighborhoods for the region's workforce?						

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CRITERIA (Continued)	SCORING RANGE					
	Low		Mid		High	
<b>Natural Assets – Does the project promote the preservation and celebration of the region’s unique natural features and environmentally sensitive areas?</b>						
Does the project provide alternative ways for residents and visitors to access and connect to communities, increasing access for recreation activities?						
Does the project build upon our region’s unique and natural assets, such as the Ohio River or natural features?						
Does the project reinforce our agricultural heritage through agritourism, healthy food initiatives, or similar programs to positively impact the rural areas of our region?						
<b>Connections – Does the project enhance connections throughout the local communities, counties, and broader region by improving safety, function, and efficiencies for all modes of transportation including vehicular, bicycle, pedestrian, rail, intermodal, freight, and aviation networks?</b>						
Does the project provide transportation infrastructure to key industries that drive economic development to areas outside of our region?						
Does the project strengthen access to transit with expanded mobility options for those who need it most and as an option that connects people to jobs?						
Does the project create a street or corridor that is connected, safe, and welcoming for all modes of transportation?						
Does the project create a gateway to our region that welcomes visitors and reinforces our identity?						
<b>Government &amp; Collaboration – Does the project encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies, and local government?</b>						
Does the project coordinate public services and investments for an increased public benefit?						
Does the project create new or reinforce existing cross-jurisdictional partnerships or public-private partnerships?						
<b>Infrastructure – Does the project ensure that the region’s utility infrastructure systems respect and protect the area’s natural resources while providing high-quality, efficient, and effective services to current and future residents and businesses?</b>						
Does the project update critical infrastructure that is needed for business, industrial, and/or residential growth?						
Does the project expand universal access to high-speed internet, especially to rural areas, minority residents, or low-income residents?						
Does the project work regionally to address water or other utility supply and distribution challenges?						
<b>Other Categories/Regional Considerations</b>						

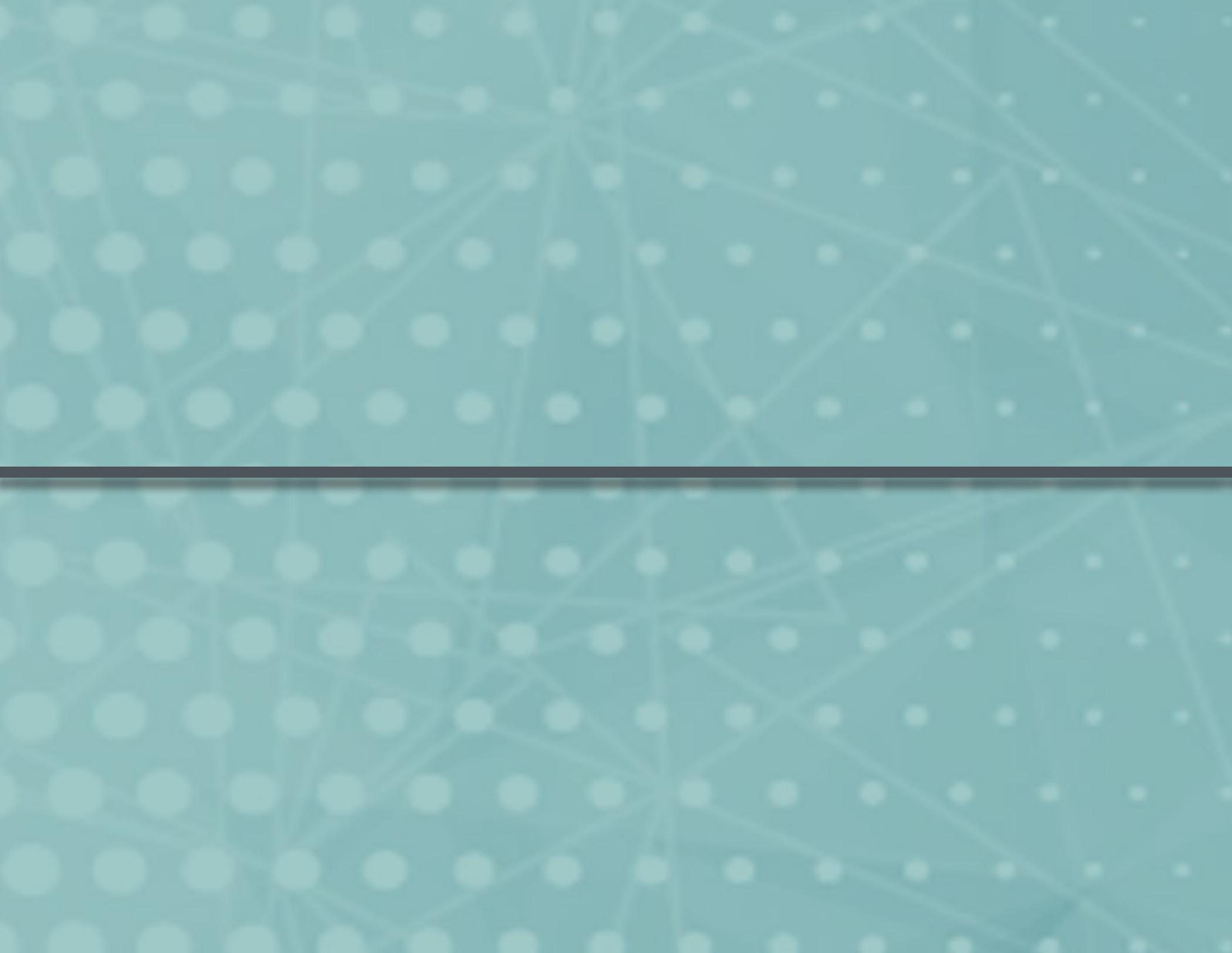
## OUR Evaluation and Prioritization Process

Our Southern Indiana issued a detailed call for projects in June of 2021 as the region updated the Regional Economic Development Plan. Project partners were eager to respond and it was evident that many of the projects in the 2019 plan had progressed. Our region received a total of 53 new projects in this call as well as projects from the 2019 plan that were still in need of support. The RDA board used the scorecard to evaluate the recent project submissions that resulted in a prioritization of regional projects. ***Because our region had already established a process for evaluating and scoring projects prior to READI, there was no surprise or political debate as the region's list of projects was prioritized.***

***We know that it's easy to compile of projects, or a wish list, for a region. We equally understand that the difficult part is paring the list down to ensure finite resources support the most impactful projects that will create the most opportunity for future investment.*** Our region has not just compiled a list of projects and programs that are needed to achieve our vision and vetted those projects for readiness and their ability to execute, but we have taken the difficult step of identifying our top priority projects. This wasn't a simple process. After all of the projects were scored, the RDA, contracted staff, and partners began open and honest conversations with each project partner about the need to work as a region. This didn't just mean supporting other partner's projects – it meant evaluating each of their requests in order to stretch the potential funding as far as it could go. ***It was evident how far our region has come in just a few years, demonstrated by project sponsors realizing the importance of a comprehensive approach to economic development and population growth – even if that meant phasing or reducing their project's scope.***

The critical need for each project was identified; this included phasing projects that would be difficult to fund elsewhere or identifying imperative tasks that need to occur to gain momentum so the project would not become idle and stall out. ***In the end, this process solidified our region to working together, as a team, to create a well-rounded list of projects and programs that will result in the largest, long-term impacts to benefit our region and the state rather than just a few communities.***

**We know that it's easy to compile of projects, or a wish list, for a region. We equally understand that the difficult part is paring the list down to ensure finite resources support the most impactful projects that will create the most opportunity for future investment.**



# 10

CHAPTER TEN

## OUR Success Metrics

OUR



# OUR Success Measured

Success is sometimes difficult to gauge. Some view success as merely checking a task off their list while others view success as making a dream become reality. Our Southern Indiana has a proven track record showing we can get projects done. We can bring continued investment to the region. We can achieve our vision.

As we progress through implementation of projects and programs in the READI Work Plan, we will evaluate our success based upon our benchmark regions and our ability to complete the projects in this Work Plan.

## **Success Measurement #1:**

***Our region will measure our success by the ability to “move the needle” on our trends and outcomes, specifically population growth. But our success is not just based on our ability to improve, it will be based on how we can “close the gap” and eventually surpass our benchmark regions. Our comparison measures will include:***

- ✓ Increasing our population growth
  - Baseline Measurement: 2010-2020 percent of population change
  - Success Measurement: 2020-current year percent of population change
- ✓ Decreasing our median age
  - Baseline Measurement: 2020 median age
  - Success Measurement: annual year median age
- ✓ Increasing the number of direct and indirect jobs
  - Baseline Measurement: Average number of jobs created between 2010 and 2020
  - Success Measurement: Number of jobs created annually
- ✓ Increasing the number of businesses supported
  - Baseline Measurement: Average number of businesses directly supported by similar programs 2010-2020
  - Success Measurement: Number of businesses that received direct support annually
- ✓ Increasing our average wages
  - Baseline Measurement: Average wages by industry in 2020
  - Success Measurement: Average wages by industry annually
- ✓ Increasing our educational attainment
  - Baseline Measurement: Average number of residents with high school degree, certificate, associate degree, bachelor degree or higher
  - Success Measurement: 2020-current year of percent increase by educational attainment
- ✓ Increasing our housing growth
  - Baseline Measurement: Average number of units constructed 2010-2020
  - Success Measurement: Number of units constructed annually

## **Success Measurement #2:**

***Our region will also measure our success by our ability to complete the 18 catalyst projects included in the READI Work Plan. Our measures of success will specifically include:***

- Number of projects and programs completed annually as compared to our initial timeline
- Public investment leveraged compared to investments identified in this READI Work Plan
- Private investment leveraged compared to investments identified in this READI Work Plan
- Number of new projects that are not included in the READI Work Plan that are initiated because of READI

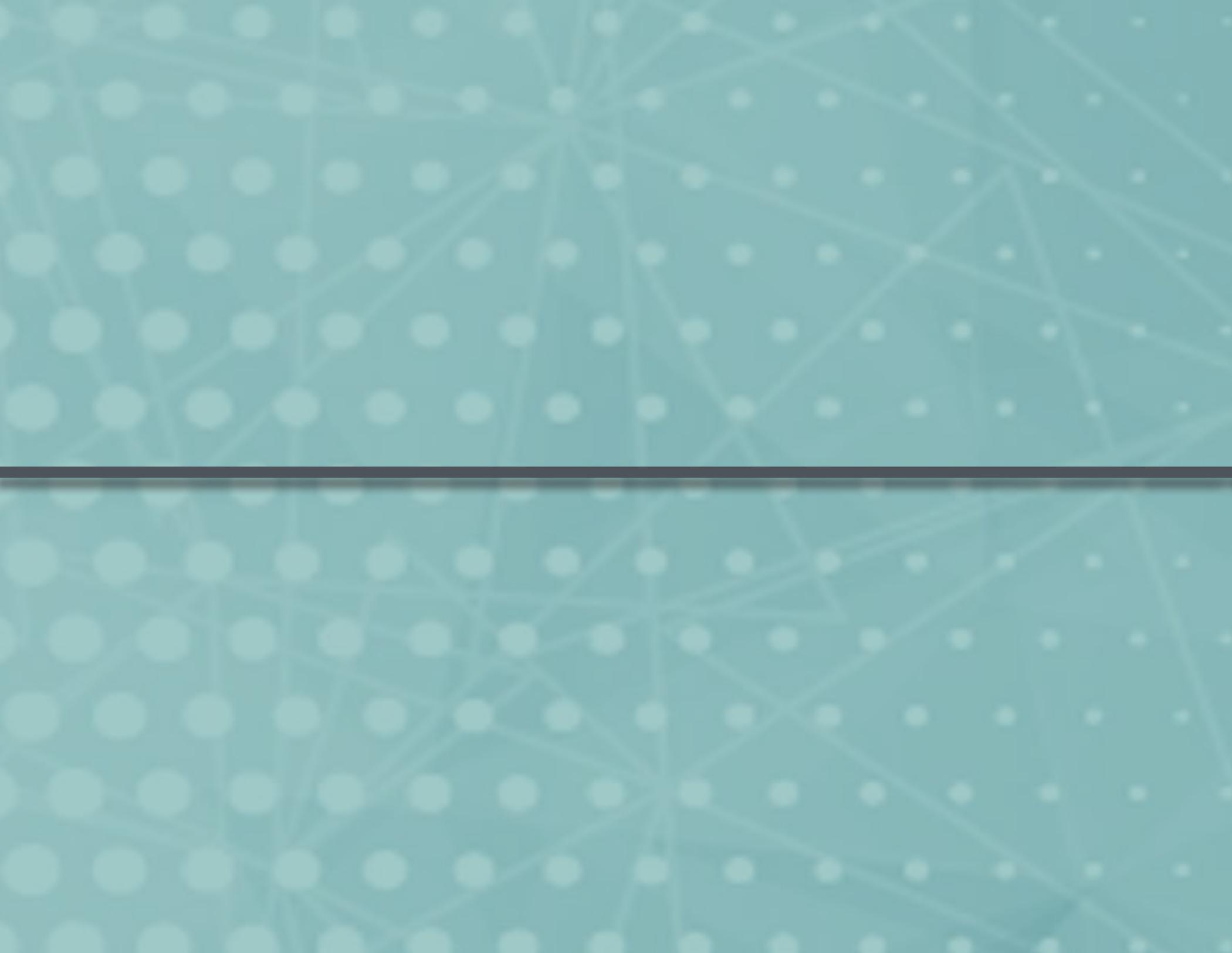
# Current state of OUR benchmark regions

A baseline of each trend for Our Southern Indiana is included in *Our Region | Our Plan* (pages 33-134). Baselines for the trends will also be documented for the benchmark regions in order to assess the current conditions. This data is sourced through ESRI Business Analysis, the American Community Survey (ACS), and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with additional analysis available from state data sources such as STATS Indiana. Data will be documented by the RDA's staff and partners for Our Southern Indiana and the benchmark regions annually. We will also track individual progress with each project and program included in this work plan at least quarterly, if not monthly, to ensure milestone deadlines are met and to proactively clear obstacles or issues. The Our Southern Indiana RDA will reevaluate our plan for success annually to make sure our efforts are resulting in the outcomes our region has defined.

**“We believe that each of these objectives will contribute to regional economic growth for many years to come and positively impact the approximately 1.27 million residents who call this region home.”**

State Representative Edward D. Clere  
State Representative Karen Engleman  
State Representative Rita Fleming  
State Representative Randy Frye  
State Senator Chris Garten  
State Senator Ronald T. Grooms  
State Senator Erin Houchin  
State Representative Zachary Payne





# 11

CHAPTER ELEVEN

# Structural Changes

OUR



# *Our Southern Indiana has been preparing for this exact moment since 2015.*

Failing to form a region for the Regional Cities Initiative was the wake-up call many in our region needed in order to see what we were missing and what we could have achieved by working together.

Thankfully, our region did not sit by idly and just watch other regions move forward. Our leaders banded together to make the changes needed through Indiana Code in order to reach a compromise on the powers of an RDA. The 2017 change in state statute which removed the power of eminent domain from an RDA was a critical turning point. Our region had not only communicated with each other to identify the problem, but our leaders were then able to work with the state legislature to find common ground – and the Our Southern Indiana RDA was born!

As a government entity, the RDA was enacted by the five County Councils in 2017, and the commissioners from the five counties came together to appoint the current board members. This was a noteworthy feat since ***the region couldn't form an RDA just two years prior, and the Our Southern Indiana RDA now has the ability to act on behalf of the five county governments as well as the 22 cities and towns as it relates to funding, developing, and implementing regionally significant development projects.***

The Our Southern Indiana RDA also prepared itself for success by acknowledging that this board could not be impactful without staff. One Southern Indiana, a regional chamber of commerce and the Local Economic Development Organization (LEDO) for Clark, Floyd, and Scott counties, was engaged in 2018 to serve as professional staff to the RDA and to provide the needed daily support services. The shared mission of both the RDA and One Southern Indiana – to help businesses thrive, encourage economic development, and increase the region's population – make this partnership possible. One southern Indiana will help guide the RDA in hiring additional staff and contract team expertise to supplement and guarantee the RDA has the staffing levels and experience that will be needed to execute the READI Work Plan successfully. The Organizational Work Plan also outlines the RDA's role in regional projects, organizational development, and potential funding mechanisms.

Our Southern Indiana has set the foundation to ensure the proper structure, partners, and regional consensus are in place for an opportunity just like this. The RDA, acting within the parameters of a public entity, is taking the lead in this effort. Because we are prepared, our region does not need any public or private sector organizational changes to complete the projects and programs identified in our READI Work Plan. ***Our Southern Indiana is READI to undertake a transformative initiative because we have the legal structure, staffing, and partners in place today to efficiently and effectively make our plan a reality within the next four years.***



**A**

APPENDIX 'A'

# Letters of Support

OUR



**STATE OF INDIANA**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

**Edward D. Clere**  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Website: [www.in.gov/1172](http://www.in.gov/1172)  
Phone: (800) 382-9841  
Email: [h72@iga.in.gov](mailto:h72@iga.in.gov)

COMMITTEES:  
Education | Public Policy | Ways and Means  
Chairman, Ways and Means Health and Medicaid Subcommittee

September 22, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority Board of Directors  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o One Southern Indiana  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for the Our Region | Our Plan Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As legislators who are proud to represent Southern Indiana, we are pleased to express our enthusiastic support for the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority's (RDA's) application for READI funding to finance its Our Region | Our Plan Regional Development Plan.

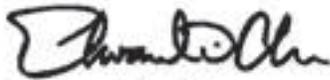
Since its inception in 2017, the Our Southern Indiana RDA has proven to be a tremendous asset to Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington counties, as well as to the region as a whole. Adhering to the vision the Indiana General Assembly laid out when it authorized the formation of regional development authorities, the Our Southern Indiana RDA has led the way in facilitating important projects that have spurred economic development and improved the quality of life in our area. We appreciate the fact that the RDA has built upon its IEDC-approved strategy from December 2019, demonstrating continued commitment to maximizing the impact of its economic development investments. We especially want to highlight the following priorities listed in Our Region | Our Plan:

- Creating and nurturing first-rate destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development to spur economic growth and improve the quality and availability of housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promoting the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;
- Encouraging collaboration among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

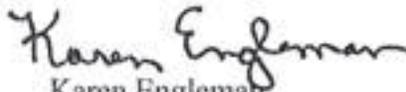
We believe that each of these objectives will contribute to regional economic growth for many years to come and positively impact the approximately 1.27 million residents who call this region home. Funding from the READI initiative will be critical to ensuring the success of key projects.

Thank you for your consideration of the Our Southern Indiana's application for READI funding. Please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have any questions or concerns.

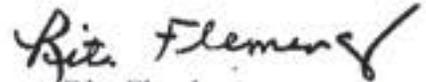
Sincerely,



Edward D. Clere  
State Representative  
District 72



Karen Engleman  
State Representative  
District 70



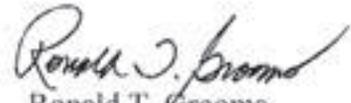
Rita Fleming  
State Representative  
District 71



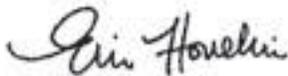
Randy Frye  
State Representative  
District 67



Chris Garten  
State Senator  
District 45



Ronald T. Grooms  
State Senator  
District 46



Erin Houchin  
State Senator  
District 47



Zachary C. Payne  
State Representative  
District 66

Senator Ron Grooms  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2785  
Senate: (317) 234-9425  
E-mail: S46@iga.in.gov

Committees:  
Family and Children Services, Chair  
Elections, R.M.  
Health and Provider Services  
Public Policy

September 13, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am pleased to support my local communities and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. I am excited about the potential this could bring to Southern Indiana as a region.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

Clark County has seen a population growth of almost 10 percent since 2011, and Floyd County has seen growth of almost 8 percent. The increasing number of jobs is above state average for our region. The activity generated by this growth requires more roads, schools, health care, parks, and housing, which is why the READI grant is so important to our region. Investment in our region keeps Indiana strong and vibrant.

I support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December of 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

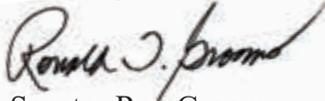
I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Ron Grooms

District 46



# State of Indiana

# Senate

Senator Chris Garten  
State House  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2785  
Senate: (800) 382-9467  
E-mail: [Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov)

Committees:  
Appropriations  
Public Policy – Ranking Member  
Environmental Affairs  
Homeland Security and Transportation  
Veterans Affairs and The Military

August 30, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of attracting and retaining the best and brightest.

I fully support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Implementation of the *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I remain available to have a conversation about this process. I can be reached at (317) 232-9490, or [s45@iga.in.gov](mailto:s45@iga.in.gov).

Respectfully,

Chris Garten  
State Senator, District 45

Senator Erin Houchin  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 232-9488  
S47@in.gov

Committees:  
Tax and Fiscal Policy  
Commerce and Technology  
Utilities  
Elections  
Family and Children Services

September 17, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Ms. Huber,

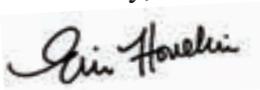
As the Indiana State Senator for Senate District 47, I am writing to express my support for Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to Southern Indiana as a region.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's comprehensive efforts to enhance the area. In implementing these strategies, Southern Indiana maximizes its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this region, with the overall goal of growing our population.

The entire Regional Development Plan an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in 2019. Building off the successful strategies already implemented, this funding will help ensure the original goals and potential of the region are realized. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

Feel free to contact my office with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Erin Houchin  
State of Indiana

**STATE OF INDIANA**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

Zach Payne  
200 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
317-234-0931  
H66@iga.in.gov

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region|Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

I represent Indiana House District (HD) 66 which encompasses Jefferson, Clark, and Scott Counties in southeastern Indiana. My role as a state representative is to represent the wants and needs of my constituents, to whom am I am beholden. This includes anything that will improve the quality of life, from expansion of personal rights to securing funding for large scale infrastructure improvements.

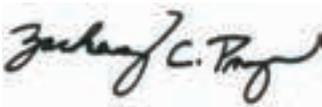
I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contribute substantially to the overarching strategy. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support growth for years to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Zach Payne  
State Representative  
House District 66



4100 Charlestown Road | New Albany, IN 47150  
Phone: 812.945.0266 | Fax: 812.948-4664 | [www.1si.org](http://www.1si.org)

September 13, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region / Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

One Southern Indiana (1si) is the local economic development organization and chamber of commerce for Clark and Floyd Counties in Southern Indiana. On behalf of 1,030 business members, 1si proactively works to grow our regional economy through business attraction, retention and expansion; through encouraging and supporting entrepreneurs and workforce development; and through providing government and workforce advocacy, business education, networking opportunities and other business services to our members and investors. Our regional responsibilities include serving as the Administrator for the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority, which was formed to support Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington counties.

1si is pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington Counties, in its effort to not only update the Regional Development Plan but also in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

As you know, 1si has supported regional collaboration for many years:

- 1si led the charge in 2014-15 as our region initiated an economic growth strategy in preparation for the Regional Cities Initiative. While we were unsuccessful in creating an RDA to apply for this designation, we saw collaboration in creating a regional strategy to guide our future work.
- In 2017, we collaborated with our legislative delegation to address authorities provided to the RDA so that our local elected officials could support our forming an RDA.
- Throughout 2017, 1si championed the creation of the Our Southern Indiana RDA with the county councils in Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. We then worked with our Boards of County Commissioners to appoint the five RDA Directors.
- In early 2018, 1si and the RDA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding which authorized our organization to serve as the pro bono administrator for the RDA, a relationship that continues to the present. During this time, the RDA developed the *Our Region / Our Plan* economic development strategy, which was completed in 2019 and won the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association's top award for economic development planning in the state of Indiana.
- 1si raised funds to update the *Our Region / Our Plan* in anticipation of making application to the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) program. Since the READI program was announced, 1si has managed the plan's revision, coordinated seven public meetings in five counties, interfaced with the IEDC on the RDA's behalf, and managed all partner and public communications of the work presently underway.

Without a doubt, 1si has shown its continued support of the RDA and the importance of its collaboration work.

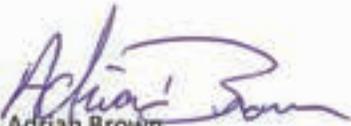
Ms. Dana Huber  
September 13, 2021  
Page 2

Furthermore, 1si is prepared to continue service to the RDA if the IEDC awards a READI grant. While the details of this relationship may change, 1si will continue to support the work of the RDA and will negotiate an agreement with the RDA to manage all aspects of the READI work, including the fiscal accounting, project management and grant reporting needs. Our Board of Directors is prepared to begin these discussions as soon as the RDA is ready to do so.

1si whole-heartedly supports the RDA's Regional Development Plan in its entirety. We encourage the IEDC to grant a maximum READI award to the RDA, and we stand ready to continue our support of the RDA going forward.

This letter is offered as a reflection of 1si's full support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Adria Brown  
Chair of the Board

  
Wendy Dant Chesser  
President & CEO



# Washington County Community Foundation

FOR GOOD. FOR EVER. FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

P.O. Box 50 • Salem, Indiana 47167

Phone: (812) 883-7334

[www.wccf.biz](http://www.wccf.biz)

August 25, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd.  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to fully support the new construction of the Washington County 4H Building, intended to house the Purdue Extension Office, Wisdom Workshop, and the 4H Exhibit Building.

The new building will expand the service offerings for the Washington County Extension Office (such as food demonstrations, health and wellness seminars, and agricultural gatherings), house an inviting venue for local youth to showcase Fair projects, as well as providing a secure location for the new Wisdom Workshop. The newly constructed building will also open space in the current Washington County Government building so county officials will be able to more effectively and efficiently operate while serving residents and better utilize tax funds.

Also, because of our location, Washington County has in the past served as a regional meeting place for youth who are involved in 4-H from surrounding counties. This building can serve as a meeting space and resource for them.

I appreciate your hard work in reviewing projects and your attention to this application for funding that will serve so many in the community.

Sincerely,

Judy Johnson  
Executive Director



Best Practices Accredited Support™  
Accredited Since 2015

*Leave a legacy. Remember us in your will or beneficiary designation form of your IRA, retirement plan or life insurance policy.*

Floyd County Redevelopment Commission  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 204  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

We are pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington Counties, in its effort to not only update the Regional Development Plan, but also in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. This letter is also written to support the Floyd County State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project (State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project) for inclusion in the Our Southern Indiana RDA READI application.

Since 2017, our support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and we continue to support regional efforts that enhance the quality of place for area residents. As part of the Louisville (KY) MSA, we recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize value to the 1.2 million Indiana residents in this great region.

We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region/Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December of 2021. There are many great projects included that will spur economic growth throughout our five counties. *Specifically, we support the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project, which is included in the overall strategy.*

Both Georgetown and Floyd County residents believe the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project will have an immediate local and regional impact through the introduction of technology-oriented businesses and community improvements. Being the western gateway to the Our Southern Indiana region, the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project is a cornerstone to building the region's infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life, which answers Governor Holcomb's call "to make transformational investments in our communities that will catalyze economic and population growth for years to come." Elements of the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project are discussed more fully below.

**Novapark – Sparking Technological and Entrepreneurial Development:**

The Novapark campus design incorporated its natural beauty and historic significance giving it a truly unique feel. This can be seen through renovation of two existing historic barn structures on the farmstead lot to create 10,000 square feet of space for entrepreneurial and laboratory services including office,

Floyd County Redevelopment Commission  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 204  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

conference, classroom and maker space. The laboratory program is also part of the Gemini Innovation Hubs project with River Ridge Development Authority. The proposed entrepreneurial and laboratory projects will help to develop Novaparke's capabilities as an engine for innovation in the region.

The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The university has agreed to provide faculty for business development courses with one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

**Town Park – Enhancing Quality of Life:**

The Town of Georgetown seeks to enhance its downtown as a place for the public to live, work and play. One of the main components of their recently adopted Downtown Plan is the renovation and expansion of the Town's main park. READI funds will allow for the construction of a new accessible playground and spray pad, walking paths, community gardens, and community amphitheater. Improvements to the existing baseball/softball field, seating and concessions will also occur. Improving public parks provides great value and increases quality of life.

**Corridor Improvements:**

Several infrastructure projects have been completed and new ones will be starting within the next two years as part of the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project. The County has prioritized improvements at three key intersections along State Road 64 at Corydon Ridge Road, Tunnel Hill Road and Oakes Road. The improvements, financed with local funds, will cost approximately \$2.5 million. These improvements will provide safer and better access to the corridor. Additionally, Edwardsville Water is upgrading service through line improvements and a new water tank to serve the corridor. The READI part of the project is the expansion of natural gas into the Edwardsville-Georgetown area.

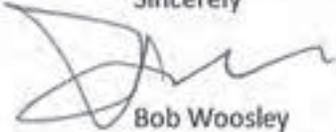
**The Project Impact:**

The measured project's impact to the region in public investment \$16.3 million. The identified private investment to be leveraged is \$97.9 million. The requested READI funding is \$9.2 million. An additional \$87.5 million has been identified through private residential/commercial development investments that will occur outside the three-year time window. Also, payroll generated from an identified part of the project will create \$8.9 million annually.

Floyd County Redevelopment Commission  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 204  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

Implementation of *Our Region/Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all citizens to participate in regional growth. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for decades to come. Our support of this plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects; moreover, we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Woosley', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Bob Woosley  
President, Floyd County Redevelopment Commission

Floyd County Redevelopment Authority  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 202  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

We are pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington Counties, in its effort to not only update the Regional Development Plan, but also in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. This letter is also written to support the Floyd County State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project (State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project) for inclusion in the Our Southern Indiana RDA READI application.

Since 2017, our support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and we continue to support regional efforts that enhance the quality of place for area residents. As part of the Louisville (KY) MSA, we recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize value to the 1.2 million Indiana residents in this great region.

We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region/Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December of 2021. There are many great projects included that will spur economic growth throughout our five counties. *Specifically, we support the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project, which is included in the overall strategy.*

Both Georgetown and Floyd County residents believe the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project will have an immediate local and regional impact through the introduction of technology-oriented businesses and community improvements. Being the western gateway to the Our Southern Indiana region, the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project is a cornerstone to building the region's infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life, which answers Governor Holcomb's call "to make transformational investments in our communities that will catalyze economic and population growth for years to come." Elements of the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project are discussed more fully below.

**Novapake – Sparking Technological and Entrepreneurial Development:**

The Novaparke campus design incorporated its natural beauty and historic significance giving it a truly unique feel. This can be seen through renovation of two existing historic barn structures on the farmstead lot to create 10,000 square feet of space for entrepreneurial and laboratory services including office,

Floyd County Redevelopment Authority  
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New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

conference, classroom and maker space. The laboratory program is also part of the Gemini Innovation Hubs project with River Ridge Development Authority. The proposed entrepreneurial and laboratory projects will help to develop Novaparke's capabilities as an engine for innovation in the region.

The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The university has agreed to provide faculty for business development courses with one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

**Town Park – Enhancing Quality of Life:**

The Town of Georgetown seeks to enhance its downtown as a place for the public to live, work and play. One of the main components of their recently adopted Downtown Plan is the renovation and expansion of the Town's main park. READI funds will allow for the construction of a new accessible playground and spray pad, walking paths, community gardens, and community amphitheater. Improvements to the existing baseball/softball field, seating and concessions will also occur. Improving public parks provides great value and increases quality of life.

**Corridor Improvements:**

Several infrastructure projects have been completed and new ones will be starting within the next two years as part of the State Road 64 Innovation Corridor Project. The County has prioritized improvements at three key intersections along State Road 64 at Corydon Ridge Road, Tunnel Hill Road and Oakes Road. The improvements, financed with local funds, will cost approximately \$2.5 million. These improvements will provide safer and better access to the corridor. Additionally, Edwardsville Water is upgrading service through line improvements and a new water tank to serve the corridor. The READI part of the project is the expansion of natural gas into the Edwardsville-Georgetown area.

**The Project Impact:**

The measured project's impact to the region in public investment \$16.3 million. The identified private investment to be leveraged is \$97.9 million. The requested READI funding is \$9.2 million. An additional \$87.5 million has been identified through private residential/commercial development investments that will occur outside the three-year time window. Also, payroll generated from an identified part of the project will create \$8.9 million annually.

Floyd County Redevelopment Authority  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 202  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

Implementation of *Our Region/Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all citizens to participate in regional growth. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for decades to come. Our support of this plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects; moreover, we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DA Andrews', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

DA Andrews

President, Floyd County Redevelopment Authority

Floyd County Economic Development Commission  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 204  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)948.4110

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

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Since 2017, our support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and we continue to support regional efforts that enhance the quality of place for area residents. As part of the Louisville (KY) MSA, we recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize our value to the 1.2 million in the great region.

We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2021. There are many great projects included which will spur economic growth throughout our five counties. Specifically, we support the Floyd County State Road 64 Innovation Corridor project which is included in the overall strategy.

I am writing this letter to support project for inclusion in the Our Southern Indiana RDA READI application. The Town and County believe this project will not only serve the local residents, but will have an immediate and positive impact regionally. Being the western gateway to the Our Southern Indiana region, the Innovation Corridor project is a comprehensive approach to area's infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life meeting Governor Holcomb call for "to make transformational investments in our communities that will catalyze economic and population growth for years to come."

#### **Novapark – Sparking Entrepreneurial Development**

The Novapark campus design incorporated its natural beauty and historic significance giving it a truly unique feel. This can be seen through renovation of two existing historic barn structures on the farmstead lot to create 10,000 square feet of space for entrepreneurial and laboratory services including office, conference, classroom and maker space. The laboratory program is also part of the Gemini Innovation Hubs project with River Ridge Development Authority. The proposed entrepreneurial and laboratory projects will help to develop Novapark's capabilities as an engine for innovation in the region.

Floyd County Economic Development Commission  
2524 Corydon Pike Suite 204  
New Albany, IN 47150  
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The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The university has agreed to provide faculty for business development courses; one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

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**Corridor Improvements**

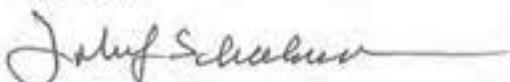
Several infrastructure projects have been developed and will be starting within the next two years as part of the Corridor project. Among these projects, the County has been involved in improvements at three key intersections along State Road 64. The County has prioritized the intersection improvements at Corydon Ridge, Tunnel Hill and Oakes Roads. The improvements financed with local funds will be approximately two and half million dollars (\$2.5M). These improvements will provide safer and better access to the corridor. Additionally, Edwardsville Water is upgrading service through line improvements and a new water tank. The READI part of the project is the expansion of natural gas into the Edwardsville-Georgetown area.

**The Project Impact**

The measured project's impact to the region in public investment is sixteen point three million dollars (\$16.3M). The identified private investment to be leveraged would be ninety-seven point nine million dollars (\$97.9M). The requested READI funding is nine point two million dollars (\$9.2M). An additional eighty-seven point five million dollars (\$87.5M) has been identified as a residential/commercial development private investment that will occur outside the three-year time window. Also, payroll generated from an identified project will create eight point nine million dollars (\$8.9M) annually.

Implementation of *Our Region / Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our citizens to participate in regional growth. Our support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

Sincerely



John Schellenberger

Floyd County Economic Development Commission, President



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

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#### **Novapark – Sparking Entrepreneurial Development**

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The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The university has

642 S. 4TH STREET, SUITE 100  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202  
PHONE: 502-561-1412 FAX: 502-561-1413

603 N. SHORE DR., UNIT 204  
JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA 47130  
PHONE: 812-280-8201 FAX: 812-280-8281



agreed to provide faculty for business development courses; one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

#### **Town Park – Enhancing Quality of Life**

The Town of Georgetown seeks to enhance its downtown as a place for the public to live, work and play. One of the main components of their recently adopted Downtown Plan is the renovation and expansion of the Town's main park. READI funds will allow for the construction of a new accessible playground and spray pad, walking paths, community gardens, and community amphitheater. Improvements to the existing baseball/softball field, seating and concessions will also occur. The impact of improving public parks can be difficult to measure.

#### **Corridor Improvements**

Several infrastructure projects have been developed and will be starting within the next two years as part of the Corridor project. Among these projects, the County has been involved in improvements at three key intersections along State Road 64. The County has prioritized the intersection improvements at Corydon Ridge, Tunnel Hill and Oakes Roads. The improvements financed with local funds will be approximately two and half million dollars (\$2.5M). These improvements will provide safer and better access to the corridor. Additionally, Edwardsville Water is upgrading service through line improvements and a new water tank. The READI part of the project is the expansion of natural gas into the Edwardsville-Georgetown area.

#### **The Project Impact**

The measured project's impact to the region in public investment is sixteen point three million dollars (\$16.3M). The identified private investment to be leveraged would be ninety-seven point nine million dollars (\$97.9M). The requested READI funding is nine point two million dollars (\$9.2M). An additional eighty-seven point five million dollars (\$87.5M) has been identified as a residential/commercial development private investment that will occur outside the three-year time window. Also, payroll generated from an identified project will create eight point nine million dollars (\$8.9M) annually.

Implementation of *Our Region / Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our citizens to participate in regional growth. Our support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. Woosley Jr.", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Robert L. Woosley Jr., P.E.  
President



INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
SOUTHEAST

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

September 1, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
c/o One Southern Indiana  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

Please accept this letter as strong support for the 64 Innovation Corridor project. The 64 Innovation Corridor has the potential to be a significant economic asset for the entire region. A successful READI grant will accelerate the economic benefits that will spinoff dividends for the entire region.

The 64 Innovation Corridor project will serve as a catalyst to launch vital entrepreneurial endeavors. Outside of the Covid pandemic, business formations were on a declining trend in this country. A facility such as the 64 Innovation Corridor will provide the tools and assets that will facilitate vital entrepreneurial development.

One of the key strengths of the proposal is the collaboration that exists throughout the region. Novaparke will provide a tremendous boost to academic programming at IU Southeast, thus allowing the university to attract and retain both students and faculty. Novaparke will serve as a vital asset to the growth of entrepreneurship programming at IU Southeast. In essence, Novaparke provides IU Southeast with a live working laboratory of business innovation and development.

One of the major challenges facing the entire region is where we fall across Indiana with respect to average weekly wages. For different reasons, the Southern Indiana region ranks in the bottom half of average weekly wages. Developing assets such as a Novaparke and the 64 Innovation Corridor project will serve as a generator of higher skilled and higher paying jobs, and as a magnet for talent attraction and retention.

The proximity of the I-64 Edwardsville exit to Louisville places this as one of the prime development regions in the entire metro area. The 64 Innovation Corridor project will propel this region, allowing it to maximize its full potential, and serve as an economic development engine for the entire region.

Sincerely,

*Uric Dufrene*

Uric Dufrene, Ph.D.  
Sanders Chair in Business  
Indiana University Southeast



## NEW ALBANY FLOYD COUNTY SCHOOLS

Administrative Services Center  
2813 Grant Line Road  
P.O. Box 1087  
New Albany, IN 47151-1087  
(812) 949-4200  
Fax (812) 542-4743  
www.nafcs.org

August 26, 2021

Bradley J. Snyder  
Superintendent

BOARD OF SCHOOL  
TRUSTEES

Elaine Murphy  
President

Jenny Higble  
Vice-President

Elizabeth Galligan  
Secretary

Joseph L. Brown  
Member

Donna Corbett  
Member

Rebecca Gardenour  
Member

Lee Ann Wiseheart  
Member

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

We are pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington Counties, in its effort to not only update the Regional Development Plan but also in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

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We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2021. There are many great projects included which will spur economic growth throughout our five counties. Specifically, we support the Floyd County State Road 64 Innovation Corridor project which is included in the overall strategy.

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### Novapake – Sparking Entrepreneurial Development

The Novaparke campus design incorporated its natural beauty and historic significance giving it a truly unique feel. This can be seen through renovation of two existing historic barn structures on the farmstead lot to create 10,000 square feet of space for entrepreneurial and laboratory services including office, conference, classroom and maker space. The laboratory program is also

part of the Gemini Innovation Hubs project with River Ridge Development Authority. The proposed entrepreneurial and laboratory projects will help to develop Novaparke's capabilities as an engine for innovation in the region.

The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The university has agreed to provide faculty for business development courses; one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

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The Town of Georgetown seeks to enhance its downtown as a place for the public to live, work and play. One of the main components of their recently adopted Downtown Plan is the renovation and expansion of the Town's main park. READI funds will allow for the construction of a new accessible playground and spray pad, walking paths, community gardens, and community amphitheater. Improvements to the existing baseball/softball field, seating and concessions will also occur. The impact of improving public parks can be difficult to measure.

#### **Corridor Improvements**

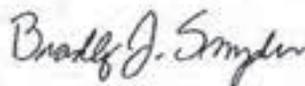
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Sincerely



Dr Brad Snyder, Superintendent  
New Albany Floyd County School Corporation



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

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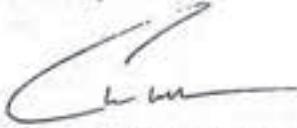
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Loop". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "L".

Chris Loop, Town Council President

Town of Georgetown



Destination  
GEORGETOWN  
A Main Street Organization

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

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Sincerely

*Tom Welch, President*  
*on behalf of*  
*Board of Directors*



Lisa Brones Huber  
Gov't & Community Relations Manager

1212 Eastern Blvd.  
Clarksville, IN 47129

o: 812.285.6631  
c: 502.314.3019

Sep. 21, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout southern Indiana, including Align Southern Indiana's regional trail plan, which Duke Energy supported with \$10,000 for mapping regional trails in late 2020, and the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project, both of which will help support growth and economic development and quality of place initiatives, and contribute to the regional impact of this strategy.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Brones Huber". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Lisa Brones Huber



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor  
Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian

## INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

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Office of the State Veterinarian  
Discovery Hall, Suite 100  
1202 East 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898  
Phone: 317/544-2400

27 August 2021

President Lake Lambert  
Hanover College  
517 Ball Drive  
Hanover, IN 47243

Dear Dr. Lambert:

As Indiana State Veterinarian I hear regularly from private veterinarians from throughout Indiana whose practices are in dire need of veterinary talent (doctors and technicians) to accommodate the number of clients who need services. The dramatic increase in households with pets during the pandemic has served to put even more demand on the veterinary sector.

Furthermore, “veterinary deserts”—geographic regions where veterinary services are not available to meet community needs (not unlike food deserts)—are becoming more common (and troublesome) in rural America, including Indiana.

As small businesses, veterinary clinics must utilize human resources (veterinary team members) efficiently and effectively. When staff is limited, hard decisions have to be made about spending time to travel to and from a farm to see an individual cow or pig when small animal owners are being turned away at the clinic door. What’s more, offsetting the lost revenue by charging more for a farm visit means a greater (and unaffordable) burden on livestock owners. That leaves our precious livestock and poultry industry—which is at the heart of our nation’s food supply—vulnerable to disease threats.

Developing opportunities that increase access to high-quality veterinary medical education that comes with a sustainable debt-burden is an essential first step to reducing or eliminating veterinary deserts. With limited seats available for students in veterinary colleges across the United States, the Hanover College/Ivy Tech partnership shows outside-the-box thinking to address veterinary team retention and recruitment issues we see in Indiana.

My team at the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) continues to look for solutions to the rapidly evolving demand for veterinary teams, who are essential to supporting our agency’s mission to safeguard Indiana’s animals, food supply and citizens.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bret D. Marsh, DVM". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey rectangular background.

Bret D. Marsh, DVM  
Indiana State Veterinarian

**Safeguarding Indiana’s animals, food supply and citizens for more than 125 years.**

An equal opportunity employer and provider.



September 15, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o One Southern Indiana  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement regional strategies like these to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan, which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It lays out many significant projects that will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

In conclusion, I applaud the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities and support what is outlined in its overall strategy, including:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Pepper Mulherin*

**Pepper Mulherin**  
Director  
External & Legislative Affairs

**AT&T Indiana**  
134 NW 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Evansville, IN 47725  
m 812.204.8519 | @PepperMulherin | [pepper.p.mulherin@att.com](mailto:pepper.p.mulherin@att.com)



September 9, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

- *AT&T Indiana applauds your regional collaboration in SE Indiana.*

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

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I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
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Director  
External & Legislative Affairs

**AT&T Indiana**

134 NW 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Evansville, IN 47725  
m 812.204.8519 | @PepperMulherin | [pepper.p.mulherin@att.com](mailto:pepper.p.mulherin@att.com)

# BENNETT & BENNETT

INSURANCE, INC.

*We should not judge something of value by what it cost, but by what it is worth.*

Pamela Bennett Martin, CIC  
President, Bennett & Bennett Ins., Inc.  
351 E Chestnut Street  
Corydon IN 47112  
(812)738-2233

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As a business owner for many years in both Harrison and Floyd Counties, I feel very strongly that we should support the communities that we live in and around. It is a pleasure to show my full support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and the promise it brings for both population and economic growth in several of the counties my business serves.

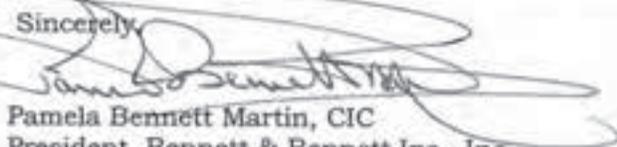
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members are drawn from five different counties in our area including Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington, is leading the drive to obtain funds totaling up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. I am eager see all the possibilities this could provide to all members of each of these communities.

The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is spearheading the quest for funding, and has had tremendous community support over the years. This has bolstered the development of the Regional Development Strategy. I am very proud of the hard work this organization is performing to advance the quality of life for those who live in the five counties it serves.

It is uplifting to think of all the opportunities community members will have to work together to improve both economic and population growth with the implementation of *Our Region/Our Plan* which is an update to the *Our Region/Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December of 2019. I fully support each of the strategies and projects provided therein. It is my hope that READI will recognize the full benefit of the implementation of the *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan with a funding award.

Please accept this letter as a demonstration of my full and complete support of the Regional Development Plan. The carefully designed projects that are supported by this plan will certainly be a catalyst for economic and population growth in each of the five counties it includes. Should you have any questions, you may contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Pamela Bennett Martin, CIC  
President, Bennett & Bennett Ins., Inc.

351 E. Chestnut Street  
Corydon, IN 47112  
(812) 738-2233  
FAX (812) 738-3503

3837 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812) 948-2233  
FAX (812) 941-5004

[www.bennettins.com](http://www.bennettins.com)

# Community Action of Southern Indiana, Inc.



July 7, 2021

Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority  
Rental Housing Tax Credit Program  
30 S. Meridian St, Suite 900  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

To whom it may concern,

Community Action of Southern Indiana (CASI), Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP), is pleased to write this letter on behalf of its support to provide project-based vouchers for Sellersburg Scholar in Sellersburg, Indiana. The development will consist of the new construction of no more than 42 apartments. CASI has agreed to provide a conditional commitment for this project contingent on the low-income housing tax credit allocation in November 2021 from the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA). CASI will ensure that commitments to the Sellersburg Scholar House meet the following criteria:

- 1) Must be part of a federal or state rental assistance program; and
- 2) Must be project-based rental assistance; and
- 3) The term of the rental assistance agreement will cover the 15-year compliance period; and
- 4) The rental assistance agreement will cover at least 20% of the project units. No less than nine (9) units will be covered by the project-based vouchers.

We are looking forward to working with the Family Scholar House and Marian Development Group to provide assistance for the residents of this development.

Sincerely,

Phil Ellis,

Executive Director/CEO

## Mission Statement

To support and empower families and communities striving to reach self-sufficiency.

201 East Fifteenth Street  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130

Phone: (812) 288-6451  
Administration FAX: (812) 284-8314  
Head Start FAX: (812) 284-5252  
ME/IDA FAX: (812) 284-8315  
EAP FAX: (812) 284-1115

In compliance with state and federal laws, CASI will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, veteran's status, sexual orientation, marital status or disability or other legally protected status.



710 Pillsbury Lane New Albany, Indiana 47150  
tel: 812.944.1325 toll-free: 800.876.8448 fax: 812.206.4942  
www.centra.org

September 13, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As the President of Centra Credit Union's Southern Region, this initiative takes on great importance to my organization given that we have locations in each of the communities that will benefit from this investment.

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

**I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region/Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019.** It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties. I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing, and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies, and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region / Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth.



710 Pillsbury Lane New Albany, Indiana 47150  
tel: 812.944.1325 toll-free: 800.876.8448 fax: 812.206.4942  
www.centra.org

My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Bottorff", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Christopher L. Bottorff  
President Southern Region & Chief Sales Officer

cc Wendy Dant Chesser

# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

JEFFERSON COUNTY



August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI Submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County, Inc. (CFMJC) I am submitting this expression of strong support of *Our Region | Our Plan*. We support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. In June, CFMJC made a \$2,500 grant to assist One Southern Indiana, the RDA administrator who is leading the region in our quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, the RDA and its participating communities have developed the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and that past work and collaborative spirit positions our region very well through this READI process. I applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. We must implement these regional strategies to maximize the value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

CFMJC whole-heartedly supports the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, CFMJC supports projects our organization has and is investing in that contribute the overall strategy like the City of Madison's Destination Development Project and the Ohio Theatre. Once restored, this historic gem in the heart of Madison's National Landmark and Cultural Arts Districts will become an important regional attraction and destination.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all our regional growth. Our support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for generations to come.

Please contact me at [bill@cfmjc.org](mailto:bill@cfmjc.org) or 812-274-0241 if I may be of any assistance during this grant evaluation process.

Sincerely,



Bill Barnes  
President & CEO



## WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

---

Friday, August 27, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road,  
New Albany, IN 47150

Board members:

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce would like for you to consider the application for the Salem Airport of Aviation Commissioner's RDA grant. This application requests READI grant funds to assist with the expansion of the Salem Municipal Airport. Salem would be able to accommodate commercial aircraft with this airport having a 5,000-foot runway, fueling center, and updated hangers. With this expansion, the airport would be able to boost Washington County's economy as well as neighboring counties in our region. Making this project beneficial to Our Southern Indiana RDA.

The Chamber's vision is to demonstrate the value of a collective group of businesses where all members can belong, give, support, and work together for the betterment of the community. Recently, we developed a strategic plan for our Chamber, and we feel this project aligns perfectly with one of our important goals... to PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

This project would not only attract aircraft travel to our region, but pave the way for other businesses to succeed, grow, and expand. Over time, we see this community becoming more of a tourist destination to showcase Washington County's rich history and historical architecture. This expansion would cause the need for additional hotels and would bring more opportunities for events and other tourist attractions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erik Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Erik Bush, CP

Executive Director of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce  
99 Public Square, Suite 201, Salem IN 47167 | Phone: (812) 883-4303



September 2, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

My name is Kelly Dulaney. I am the Executive Director of Greater Scott County Chamber of Commerce.

Scott County is where families and business owners live, work, and play. With its location on I-65 and several major highways, all roads lead to Scott County. I'm proud to represent the Chamber of Commerce and assist our community and businesses.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy. This will benefit our community greatly. It will enhance our quality of life, health, and drive tourism.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies

Scott County Chamber of Commerce  
*"Your Business is Our Business"*  
90 N Main Street – Scottsburg, Indiana 47170  
812-752-4080 | [scottcom@c3bb.com](mailto:scottcom@c3bb.com) | [scottchamber.org](http://scottchamber.org)



and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Dulaney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Kelly Dulaney  
Executive Director  
Scott County Chamber of Commerce  
812-752-4080

CITY OF  
**CHARLESTOWN**

EST. 1808

Dr. Treva Hodges, Ph. D.  
MAYOR

August 17, 2021

Dr. Travis Haire, Chancellor  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Sellersburg Campus  
8204 Highway 311  
Sellersburg, IN 47172

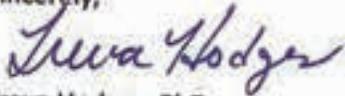
Dear Dr. Haire,

I am honored to write in support of Ivy Tech Community College's READI grant application for the Family Scholar House initiative. The City of Charlestown is a long-standing supporter of Ivy Tech Community College as we recognize your important role as a critical workforce partner throughout the region. Ivy Tech has proven to be a dedicated partner with our community in helping to prepare students to be successful in the workplace by strategically and holistically supporting student needs. This approach is critical to our ability to meet current and future workforce needs to support regional growth, particularly that anticipated in Charlestown's section of the River Ridge Commerce Center. I am particularly thankful for your recent involvement in Charlestown to help promote educational programs for adult, single parent learners.

We are excited that Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House have embarked on a bold but thoughtful regional initiative encompassing affordable housing, education, life and career support services, and a workforce focus dedicated to lifting the prospects of those in need. The community members who will be served by the wraparound services this program will offer will no doubt prove to be valuable long-term members of our regional communities.

On behalf of the City of Charlestown, I fully support this READI application submission and funding request as this project will continue to generate positive returns for students and their families while also ensuring broad benefits across workforce sectors.

Sincerely,



Treva Hodges, PhD  
Mayor of Charlestown



August 26, 2021

Justin Green - Mayor

201 E. Market St., Suite 100  
Salem, Indiana 47167-2117

Office: 812-883-4265  
Cell: 812-620-3324

[justin.green@cityofsalemin.com](mailto:justin.green@cityofsalemin.com)

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am writing you on behalf of the City of Salem's efforts and interest into regional economic development. We know the need for collaboration among our neighbors is necessary for future growth. That growth is vital in sustaining prosperous communities. Salem believes that we all benefit from Southern Indiana's forward thinking.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Lake Salinda project which contributes to the overall strategy:

- Increased tourism for a centrally located recreational facility
- Revitalization of an underused asset
- Healthy living initiatives/Educational experiences
- Additional quality of place activities for community

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Sincerely,

Justin Green, Mayor



Justin Green - Mayor

201 E. Market St., Suite 100  
Salem, Indiana 47167-2117

Office: 812-883-4265

Cell: 812-620-3324

[justin.green@cityofsalemin.com](mailto:justin.green@cityofsalemin.com)

August 26, 2021

Board of Directors

Our Southern RDA

4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

Board Members,

Please consider the application for the Salem Airport Board of Aviation Commissioner's RDA grant application which requests READI grant funds to further the expansions of the Salem Municipal Airport. This municipal airport has the ability to boost the economy of Washington county and surrounding counties in the RDA region. Salem can accommodate commercial aircraft with a functioning municipal airport having a 5,000 LF runway, updated T-Hangers, and a fixed Jet-A Fuel point.

Washington County has the potential to attract travel from the region and beyond to promote travel and tourism. Some of those include world renown Salem Speedway, Historic Salem Square, Beck's Mill, John Hay Center featuring the Stevens Museum and many businesses with direct access to neighboring counties by state highways. This project would not just benefit Washington County, but the Our Southern Indiana RDA. The increased services will allow a rest location to refuel for all aircraft traffic. This is a welcoming addition to this airport.

The City of Salem does support Salem Municipal Airport's request for financial assistance for improvements not available for FAA CIP grant funding. This regional project would drive growth in Washington County and will be a great benefit to businesses and residents in the Our Southern Indiana RDA.

Sincerely,

Justin Green, Mayor

City of Salem



August 26, 2021

Justin Green - Mayor

201 E. Market St., Suite 100  
Salem, Indiana 47167-2117

Office: 812-883-4265  
Cell: 812-620-3324

[justin.green@cityofsalemin.com](mailto:justin.green@cityofsalemin.com)

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am writing you on behalf of the City of Salem's efforts and interest into regional economic development. We know the need for collaboration among our neighbors is necessary for future growth. That growth is vital in sustaining prosperous communities. Salem believes that we all benefit from Southern Indiana's forward thinking.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Salem Municipal Airport project which contributes to the overall strategy:

- Availability for regional airport runway access
- Increased tourism for Southern Indiana
- Maximizing Local/State/Federal grant for expansion
- Additional quality of place/industry need for airport activities

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Sincerely,

Justin Green, Mayor

State of Indiana  
City of Salem  
Common Council

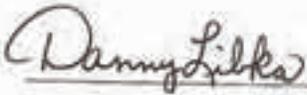
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2021- 1

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OUR SOUTHERN INDIANA REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY APPLICATION FOR IEDC READI PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Salem Common Council members support the Our Southern  
Indiana Regional Development Authority's application for the IEDC READI Program.

WHEREAS, the City of Salem Common Council members believe that the benefits to  
Salem, Indiana, related to projects submitted by Washington County and each county member of  
the RDA, will strengthen the quality of life in the region.

SO RESOLVED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of AUGUST, 2021.



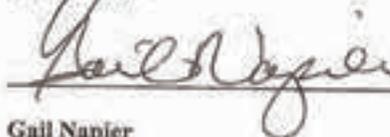
Danny Libka



Steve Crane

ABSENT

Rick Stewart

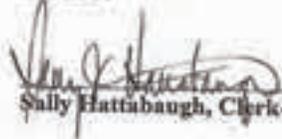


Gail Napier



Jody Smedley

ATTEST:



Sally Hattabaugh, Clerk-Treasurer



September 1, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

Being Mayor since 2020, I have entered a role during a national crisis, but I see we are coming out stronger and with the efforts and coordination of communities working together we are able to create exciting opportunities for not only Scottsburg, but the region. I am fully invested in growing Scottsburg and presenting the area and community members to be proud of their home, their community and their region, therefore success for the region spans success for our community.

Scottsburg is a community of nearly 6,800 nestled in the crossroads of State Road 56, US Highway 31 and Interstate 65, but to many we call Scottsburg – ‘home.’ For those of us lucky enough to say that it is a true joy! Scottsburg is not just a city, but a community of friends and neighbors all working together to build a brighter tomorrow and live Scottsburg Proud.

Scottsburg is an industrial, commercial, and residential community, both with a long history, and a bright future. Scottsburg has put a large emphasis on ‘quality of life’ and it shows in our beautiful parks, growing residential properties, new businesses in and around our downtown, along with investment in technology of fiber, affordable living and utility rates and topped off with safety and security. Scottsburg is also a great place to bring or start a business with a supportive Economic Development partnership, an active Chamber of Commerce, and is also home to The Mid-America Science Park, a business incubator, education center and event venue.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

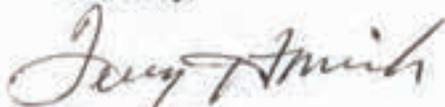
I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex which contributes to the overall strategy:

- *Increase commerce and visitors to Scott County and the region*
- *Enhance opportunities for existing businesses, clubs, organizations and bring new businesses, clubs and organizations to the community & region*
- *Expand into an under-developed area of the community to bring an enhancement to the quality of life by having a safe, fun and active area for locals and visitors to enjoy and be proud*
- *Create a point of interest for the region*
- *Build on the geographic location of Scottsburg and Scott County and how it is easily accessible from main metropolitan areas, as well as having major roadways including US Hwy 31, State Road 56 and Interstate 65*
- *Provides the empowerment of the community to continue to create a great place to live, work, play, study and stay – which means the mission of Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb and the mission of our neighboring Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear*

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

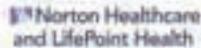
This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Terry Amick  
Mayor of Scottsburg, Indiana  
[tamick@cityofscottsburg.com](mailto:tamick@cityofscottsburg.com)  
812-752-3169

# CLARK MEMORIAL HEALTH

 Norton Healthcare  
and LifePoint Health

PO Box 69, 1220 Missouri Avenue | Jeffersonville, IN 47130

September 1, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Martin Padgett, CEO of Clark Memorial Health. Since 1922, Clark Memorial Health has provided exceptional health care services to southern Indiana. Located in Jeffersonville, Indiana, off I-65, Clark Memorial is a comprehensive medical center providing advanced medical care with a personal touch. With our long-standing tradition of care and our continuous expansion of new programs and services, our goal is, simply, to be the best community healthcare provider in the region. Our mission of Making Communities Healthier has always been central to the contributions we make to southern Indiana.

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

# CLARK MEMORIAL HEALTH

Part of Norton Healthcare  
and LifePoint Health

PO Box 69, 1220 Missouri Avenue | Jeffersonville, IN 47130

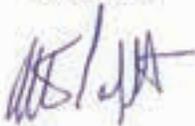
I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



# State of Indiana

# Senate

Senator Ron Grooms  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2785  
Senate: (317) 234-9425  
E-mail: S46@iga.in.gov

Committees:  
Family and Children Services, Chair  
Elections, R.M.  
Health and Provider Services  
Public Policy

August 23, 2021

Dear Director Langford,

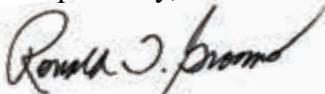
I am pleased to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

I am excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful I can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,



Senator Ron Grooms



# State of Indiana

# Senate

Senator Chris Garten  
State House  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2785  
Senate: (800) 382-9467  
E-mail: [Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov)

Committees:  
Appropriations  
Public Policy – Ranking Member  
Environmental Affairs  
Homeland Security and Transportation  
Veterans Affairs and The Military

August 23, 2021

Nic Langford  
Clarksville Redevelopment Director  
2000 Broadway St  
Clarksville, IN 47129

Dear Nic,

I am writing today to express my strong support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. I am impressed by the town's \$285,701,840 project that will see a new, vibrant, dense, and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, and in turn attract new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

I fully support the Town of Clarksville's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative application. I remain available to have a conversation about this process. I can be reached at (317) 232-9490, or [s45@iga.in.gov](mailto:s45@iga.in.gov). Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Chris Garten  
State Senator, District 45



Dear Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

Denton Floyd Real Estate Group is enthused to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. A. Denton".

Brandon Denton

Co-founder | Denton Floyd Real Estate Group

502-767-1280 Direct | 502-371-6632 Fax

[bdenton@dentonfloyd.com](mailto:bdenton@dentonfloyd.com) | [www.DentonFloyd.com](http://www.DentonFloyd.com)



A 805 City Center Drive  
Suite 160  
Carmel IN 46032  
P 317.575.9400  
F 317.575.9399

August 24, 2021

Mr. Nic Langford  
Town of Clarksville – Redevelopment Director  
2000 Broadway Street  
Suite 208  
Clarksville, IN 47129

RE: READI Grant Support Letter  
South Clarksville Marathon Site Project

Mr. Langford,

CRG Residential is pleased to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Grant Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town of Clarksville's – South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use development installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield sit over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful w2e can play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Sincerely,

David C. George, P.E.  
VP of Development



830 Eastern Boulevard . Clarksville, IN 47129 . 812-920-0818

ATTN: Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

Form G Holdings, INC is enthused to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

Steven P Shaffer, Vice President



August 25, 2021

Dear Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

Cornerstone Group is delighted to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's s READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cory Hoehn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cory Hoehn  
President



August 26, 2021

Nic Langford  
Redevelopment Director  
Town of Clarksville

Re: READI Program

Dear Mr. Langford,

As a Commercial Banker in this area for over 20 years, I am more than pleased to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown area, installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment. This type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and other investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

Our bank is excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Elles".

Mike Elles  
Vice President, Commercial Lending





August 23, 2021

Dear Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

Baker Commercial Real Estate is enthused to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Baker".

Jim Baker, SIOR, CCIM  
Baker Commercial Real Estate  
603 N Shore Drive, Suite 201  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130



**FOUNDATION**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Bill Reedy**  
*President*

**Nicole Yates**  
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**Aaron Tolliver**

**Ann Wood**

**Mark Wood**

**Jill Young**

**Mark Young**

201 W. Riverside Dr.  
Clarksville, IN 47129  
www.fallsoftheohio.org  
812-283-4999

Stewards of the world famous natural, cultural,  
and historical resources  
of the Falls of the Ohio area.

August 25, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear Regional Development Authority Board:

The Falls of the Ohio Foundation is pleased to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project.

The Town's \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront that will significantly enhance the quality of life in our community and improve the economic vitality of our region. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will bring future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and look forward to helping with the continued redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

Kenton M. Wooden  
Executive Director

CC: Town of Clarksville



Lisa Brones Huber  
Gov't & Community Relations Manager

1212 Eastern Blvd.  
Clarksville, IN 47129

o: 812.285.6631  
c: 502.314.3019

Aug. 27, 2021

Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, Indiana 47150

Dear Board of Directors:

Duke Energy is pleased to offer a letter of support for the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) project submission for a READI grant that includes the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. All the projects, including the South Clarksville Marathon site development, will serve as a key catalyst to help accelerate economic development in the region.

Our Southern Indiana's RDA READI submission will propel investment in Indiana's quality of place, life, and opportunity. Southern Indiana residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative like the Our Southern Indiana plan.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project offers a unique live, work, play environment. Place-making efforts like this and others in the Our Southern Indiana plan will help attract new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the region and help spur future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of Southern Indiana.

We are excited about the Our Southern Indiana's RDA project submission, including the Marathon development to help future economic development in the Southern Indiana region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Brones Huber".

Lisa Brones Huber



August 24, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

SoIN Tourism is pleased to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Yours truly,

Jim Epperson  
Executive Director

August 27, 2021

Mr. Nic Langford  
Redevelopment Director  
Town of Clarksville  
2000 Broadway, Suite 208  
Clarksville, Indiana 47129

Dear Director Langford,

Ivy Tech Community College is enthused to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,



Travis B. Haire, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

8204 HIGHWAY 311  
SELLERSBURG, INDIANA 47172-1879  
812.246.3301  
FAX 812.246.5489

August 26, 2021

Nic Langford  
Redevelopment Director  
Town of Clarksville

Dear Mr. Langford,

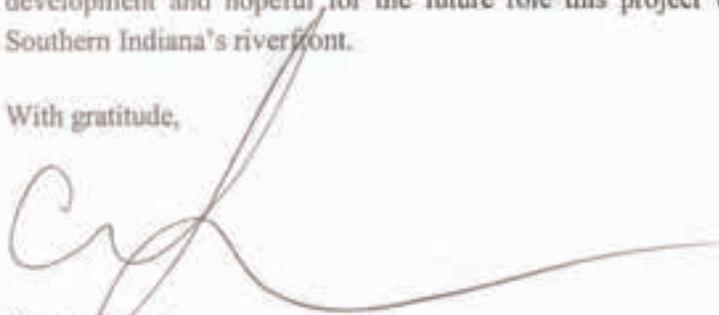
As a resident of South Clarksville, I am in full support of the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will create a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown on the Ohio Riverfront. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment. This type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. In addition, this project will serve to enhance the adjacent South Clarksville neighborhood by encouraging improvements and investment in the current housing stock, creating a walkable and accessible destination for the nearby residents, and ultimately instilling pride of place for myself and my neighbors. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

I am excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful for the future role this project will play in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

With gratitude,



Claire Johnson



# CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent • 200 Ettel Lane • Clarksville, IN 47129-1898  
(812) 282-7753 • FAX (812) 282-7754

Dear Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

Clarksville Community School Corporation is enthused to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

Tina Bennett  
Superintendent  
Clarksville Community Schools

CITY OF  
**CHARLESTOWN**

EST. 1808

Dr. Treva Hodges, Ph. D.  
MAYOR

August 24, 2021

Dear Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

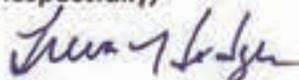
I write with enthusiastic support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. This \$285,701,840 project will certainly inspire a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown site on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative. For these reasons I am honored to have the chance to endorse this project. Although Charlestown is a separate municipality, we believe that regional development benefits us all. No doubt, projects such as Clarksville's Marathon Site offer an opportunity for Charlestown residents to visit and be energized. We do not live lives of isolation. Instead we travel across arbitrary boundaries of counties, cities, and towns. I personally view Clarksville's project as yet another wonderful benefit for the residents of Charlestown to enjoy.

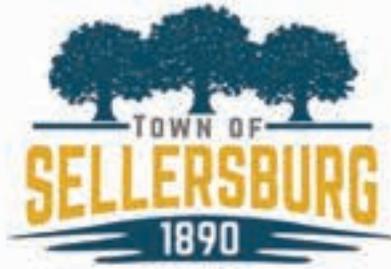
In addition to serving existing residents in the area, the South Clarksville Marathon Site Project offers a type of place-making that attracts new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful it can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,



Treva Hodges, PhD  
Mayor of Charlestown



Dear Clarksville Redevelopment Director Nic Langford,

The Town of Sellersburg is enthused to offer a letter of support for the Town of Clarksville's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Town's South Clarksville Marathon Site Development Project. The \$285,701,840 project will see a new, vibrant, dense and walkable mixed-use downtown installed on the Ohio Riverfront and under the Louisville skyline. The READI grant from the IEDC will account for less than 5% of the project and yet will serve as the key catalyst to help accelerate the development of the brownfield site over the next 5 years.

Indiana's READI program will propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

The South Clarksville Marathon Site Project will offer a unique live, work, play environment, this type of place-making is conducive to attracting new residents, businesses, tourists, and investment to the area. The Town's investments will induce future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of the Southern Indiana region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Marathon development and hopeful we can help play a future role in the redevelopment of Southern Indiana's riverfront.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Smith", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Charlie Smith  
Town Manager of Sellersburg



August 20, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

On behalf of the Harrison County Community Foundation (HCCF), I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s request for a READI grant to support Kindergarten Readiness.

Align Southern Indiana has made a significant impact in Kindergarten Readiness in this five-county region through creation of kindergarten readiness assessment tool, kindercamps, parent videos, parent assistance workshops and other initiatives. Their commitment to helping all students being ready for kindergarten is evident in our region.

The Harrison County Community Foundation recognizes the importance of kindergarten readiness, as evidenced by our Jump Start Preschool program which has provided funding resources for families in Harrison County. Like Align Southern Indiana, we stand committed to the importance of providing resources and support to help in kindergarten readiness. We recognize the significant advantages for students who come to kindergarten ready and prepared for learning.

This funding will help Align Southern Indiana with an awareness campaign for the region for families preparing for the children to start kindergarten. We are proud to support this important initiative. Thank you for your consideration of Align Southern Indiana's grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie K. Moorman".

Julie K. Moorman  
President & CEO





# CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

---

Office of the Assistant Superintendent • 200 Ettel Lane • Clarksville, IN 47129  
(812) 282-7753 • FAX (812) 282-7754

August 19, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s grant application for Kindergarten readiness.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has been working to help mitigate the situation where students start school without any readiness or preliminary learning from home. Consequently, these students enter the formal educational world as Kindergarten students without the slightest bit of foundational support from home. Align's focus has not been on placing blame on parents. Rather, the focus has been on how to provide a supportive way to help educate new parents on the importance and validity of working on the basic rudimentary skills with their children. Educators can provide data and case after case of how effective early childhood educational exposure is for children.

Please consider supporting the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s commitment to help make parents of young children aware of the importance of Kindergarten readiness. The success of such an endeavor has far reaching consequences for us, both economically and socially.

Sincerely,

Brian Allred, Ph.D.  
Assistant Superintendent

**NORTH HARRISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION**

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Ramsey, Indiana 47166

812-347-2407

FAX: 812-347-2870

August 25, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up."

Students transitioning to Kindergarten is a milestone that is so critical in setting their path for educational success. The partnership between the school, family and community is essential for the success of every child. Align has provided numerous resources for families to use in preparing their students for their upcoming educational start but unfortunately, they may not be aware of where they can access these important support materials. This money would provide the opportunity to make parents aware of their accessibility. Our region has a large number of disadvantaged households, so reaching these parents will require more exposures and in non-traditional forms. Having students ready to learn from day one is a critical determinant for predicting high school graduation.

Very few in economic development trace their success to the start of Kindergarten, but Align has spent a great deal of time, in conjunction with other community leaders and our school district, to drive systemic change. I fully support their request to fund an awareness campaign to our families as a way of building a capable workforce for the future.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at school, at home (812) 946-3201, or via email at [lrichards@nhcs.k12.in.us](mailto:lrichards@nhcs.k12.in.us).

Sincerely,



Lance Richards, Ed.D,  
Superintendent  
North Harrison Community Schools



Mark Laughner, Ed.S. | Superintendent of Schools

Administration Building | 2112 Utica-Sellersburg Road | Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
812.920-1079 ext. 50100 | mlaughner@gccschools.com

August 25, 2021

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up".

Students transitioning to Kindergarten is a milestone that is so critical in setting their path for educational success. The partnership between the school, family and community is essential for the success of every child. Align has provided numerous resources for families to use in preparing their students for their upcoming educational start but unfortunately, they may not be aware of where they can access these important support materials. This money would provide the opportunity to make parents aware of their accessibility. Our region has a large number of disadvantaged households, so reaching these parents will require more exposures and in non-traditional forms. Having students ready to learn from day one is a critical determinant for predicting high school graduation.

Very few in economic development trace their success to the start of Kindergarten, but Align has spent a great deal of time, in conjunction with other community leaders and our school district, to drive systemic change. I fully support their request to fund an awareness campaign to our families as a way of building a capable workforce for the future.

Sincerely,

Mark Laughner, Ed.S.  
Superintendent



## NEW ALBANY FLOYD COUNTY SCHOOLS

Administrative Services Center  
2813 Grant Line Road  
P.O. Box 1087  
New Albany, IN 47151-1087  
(812) 949-4200  
Fax (812) 542-4743  
[www.nafcs.org](http://www.nafcs.org)

August 24, 2021

Bradley J. Snyder  
Superintendent

To whom it may concern,

**BOARD OF SCHOOL  
TRUSTEES**

Elaine Murphy  
President

Jenny Higbie  
Vice-President

Elizabeth Galligan  
Secretary

Joseph L. Brown  
Member

Donna Corbett  
Member

Rebecca Gardenour  
Member

Lee Ann Wiseheart  
Member

This letter is written in support of Align Southern Indiana Inc.'s Small Starts Big Finishes initiative. A dedicated group of educators and early childhood community leaders from five counties in Southern Indiana have worked together to determine what it takes for children to be successful in their first year of school; what it takes to truly be ready for kindergarten. We have gathered much information which led to the creation of a variety of resources for families and day care centers. These resources provide a collective and common push among the five counties to prepare children to enter kindergarten with the skills necessary to obtain the early literacy and math skills that lead to future success. Our next step in the Small Starts Big Finishes initiative is to find ways to connect families and day care centers to these resources. With a very limited budget, marketing and advertising has been difficult. We have valuable resources and opportunities available and families and day care providers who want to take advantage of them, but we need your help in connecting the two.

As an instructional leader in New Albany Floyd County Schools, I urge you to consider Align Southern Indiana Inc.'s Small Starts Big Finishes initiative to help connect those caring for and educating our youngest learners to resources that will certainly have a lasting impact on their educational success.

Sincerely,

Barb Hoover  
Lead Literacy Coach  
Coordinator of ESSER Programs  
New Albany Floyd County Schools

# Silver Creek Primary School "Hatching Dragons"

8604 Commerce Park Drive, Sellersburg, Indiana (812) 248-7250

Mrs. Abbey Campbell, Principal



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**\*\* WE LOVE, LAUGH, AND LEARN TOGETHER \*\***

To Whom It May Concern,

Silver Creek School Corporation school is partnered with Align Southern Indiana through the Kindergarten Readiness initiative. READI provides a funding opportunity that would strongly support our Kindergarten Readiness campaign, a mission I whole heartedly believe will assist us in having more children ready to enter Kindergarten. Align continues to work diligently toward having every child ready for Kindergarten and this is another example of the collaborative nature of their work.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

**Abbey Campbell**  
**Principal**  
**Silver Creek Primary**  
**812-248-7250**

---

The mission of Silver Creek Primary is to provide each child with a nurturing, safe, and productive environment. All adults have high expectations for children who are building the foundations for their education. We strive to foster a love for learning by ensuring children are engaged, challenged, and inspired to develop and attain their character and academic goals through a collaborative and respectful community.

# E

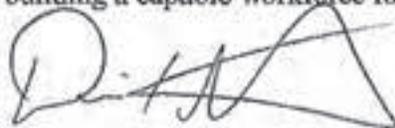
# EAST WASHINGTON SCHOOL CORPORATION

August 26, 2021

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up".

Students transitioning to Kindergarten is a milestone that is so critical in setting their path for educational success. The partnership between the school, family and community is essential for the success of every child. Align has provided numerous resources for families to use in preparing their students for their upcoming educational start but unfortunately, they may not be aware of where they can access these important support materials. This money would provide the opportunity to make parents aware of their accessibility. Our region has a large number of disadvantaged households, so reaching these parents will require more exposures and in non-traditional forms. Having students ready to learn from day one is a critical determinant for predicting high school graduation.

Very few in economic development trace their success to the start of Kindergarten, but Align has spent a great deal of time, in conjunction with other community leaders and our school district, to drive systemic change. I fully support their request to fund an awareness campaign to our families as a way of building a capable workforce for the future.



Dennis Stockdale  
Superintendent



## Community Foundation of Southern Indiana

Sharon Handy  
Chair

August 24, 2021

Damon Massey  
Vice-Chair

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

S. Bitch Shaw  
Secretary

Adam Neville  
Treasurer

Dear Board of Directors,

Lisa Brones Huber  
Immediate Past Chair

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Kindergarten Readiness "Small Starts. Big Finishes" initiative.

Rich Bolling

Jessica Carroll

Jay G. Connor

Angie Fenton

Dr. Melissa Fry

Mike Johnson

Greg Nash

Amy Newbanks Letke

Keith Pulliam

Larry Riecke

Dr. Catherine Sherrard

J. Scott Waters, IV

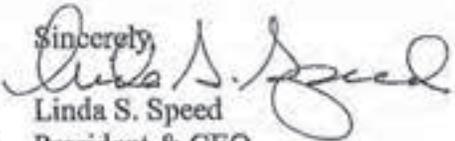
Bob Woosley

Linda Speed (ex-officio)  
President & CEO

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has developed a number of opportunities for preparing children for Kindergarten in the five-county region that it serves. Those resources are available, for free, to parents and caregivers – but they must know the resources are available! The READi grant proposes an awareness campaign designed to inform the families of the assistance and where they can find it. Many families in our area lack access to high quality, developmentally appropriate, affordable early childhood care and education. One of the Priorities for Progress identified in the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana's recently published *2020 Priorities for Progress Community Needs Assessment for Clark and Floyd Counties* is to "pursue strategies to ensure that all children have access to high quality developmentally appropriate care from birth to age five". (Priorities for Progress, page 70). One such strategy is to make available to all families the tools and resources provided – for free – by Align Southern Indiana in its five counties. Parents and caregivers will be able to use the resources in everyday interactions with their preschoolers to help prepare them to enter Kindergarten on a level playing field with the rest of their peers. Statistics show that this can make a significant difference in the on-time graduation rates of those students, which in turn can lead to a workforce-ready region.

I hope that you will thoughtfully consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Small Starts. Big Finishes. Initiative as an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a region where every child is Kindergarten-ready.

Sincerely,

  
Linda S. Speed  
President & CEO



August 25, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I strongly support Align Southern Indiana's *Small starts. Big finishes.* Early care and education (ECE) provides the foundation for lifetime success. The research on the economic returns on investment in ECE suggest that for each dollar invested, we enjoy a return of \$2-\$17 dollars.

One significant barrier to getting more children into high quality ECE is the lack of effective market demand. Working parents are strapped and often simply seek the most affordable price for a workable option. They are often unaware of available assistance to pay for high quality care. Moreover, parents across income levels often do not understand early childhood brain development and the importance of sleep, nutrition, and developmentally appropriate interaction and play to realizing a child's full brain development potential. This means that even higher income families do not demand high quality care or seek out information to help inform their choice of care for children under five.

Align Southern Indiana's early childhood efforts include plans for helping parents think more creatively about their own role in supporting strong development, providing information on available assistance and resources, and educating parents and the broader community about the value of high quality ECE. These efforts will help our communities recognize not just the individual benefits of high quality ECE, but also the community level impacts of supporting healthy, developmentally appropriate early childhood experiences.

The research is clear—supporting high quality ECE and educating parents, families, and communities about how all of us can support strong development, health and well-being for young children, is essential to our long-term social and economic success, and overall quality of life. Any successful regional development plan must include not simply building new programs or facilities, but connecting families to those resources and shifting mindsets to encourage the success of quality ECE programs. AlignSI is doing the essential work of bringing together diverse stakeholders to accomplish these goals.

Kind regards,

*Melissa S. Fry*

Melissa S. Fry, Ph.D.  
Director, Applied Research and Education Center  
Associate Professor of Sociology and Sustainability and Regeneration Studies



Pleasant Ridge Elementary  
1250 Monroe Street  
Charlestown, IN 47111

Sara Porter

Phone: (812) 256-7286  
Fax: (812) 256-7290

August 25, 2021

Students transitioning to Kindergarten is a milestone that is so critical in setting their path for educational success. The partnership between the school, family and community is essential for the success of every child. Align has provided numerous resources for families to use in preparing their students for their upcoming educational start but unfortunately, they may not be aware of where these resources are available. This money would provide the opportunity to make parents aware of their accessibility. Our region has a large number of disadvantaged households, so reaching these parents will require more exposures and in non-traditional forms.

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain business. This is the first and the most important step in preparing a workforce for our region. I strongly encourage support of this request.

Thanks,

Sara Porter  
Principal of Pleasant Ridge Elementary



# CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

---

Office of the Superintendent • 200 Ettel Lane • Clarksville, IN 47129-1898  
(812) 282-7753 • FAX (812) 282-7754

August 25, 2021

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up".

Students transitioning to Kindergarten is a milestone that is so critical in setting their path for educational success. The partnership between the school, family and community is essential for the success of every child. Align has provided numerous resources for families to use in preparing their students for their upcoming educational start but unfortunately, they may not be aware of where they can access these important support materials. This money would provide the opportunity to make parents aware of their accessibility. Our region has a large number of disadvantaged households, so reaching these parents will require more exposures and in non-traditional forms. Having students ready to learn from day one is a critical determinant for predicting high school graduation.

Very few in economic development trace their success to the start of Kindergarten, but Align has spent a great deal of time, in conjunction with other community leaders and our school district, to drive systemic change. I fully support their request to fund an awareness campaign to our families as a way of building a capable workforce for the future.

Respectfully,

Tina Bennett  
Superintendent  
Clarksville Community Schools



*August 25, 2021*

*Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up".*

*Students transitioning to Kindergarten is a milestone that is so critical in setting their path for educational success. The partnership between the school, family and community is essential for the success of every child. Align has provided numerous resources for families to use in preparing their students for their upcoming educational start but unfortunately, they may not be aware of where they can access these important support materials. This money would provide the opportunity to make parents aware of their accessibility. Our region has a large number of disadvantaged households, so reaching these parents will require more exposures and in non-traditional forms. Having students ready to learn from day one is a critical determinant for predicting high school graduation.*

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*Respectfully*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Louie Jensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

*Dr. Louie Jensen  
Associate Superintendent  
New Albany Floyd County Schools*

# SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

255 Highway 31 S. P.O. Box 9  
AUSTIN, IN 47102  
812-794-8750 or FAX: 812-794-8765

## BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

*Ryan Payne*  
PRESIDENT

*Ron Atkins*  
VICE-PRESIDENT

*Darlene Hall*  
SECRETARY

*Kathy Morris*  
MEMBER

*David Deaton*  
MEMBER

## ADMINISTRATION

*Trevor Jones*  
SUPERINTENDENT

*Ryan Herald*  
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Keith Henderson*  
ASST. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Darcie Goodin*  
MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Beverly Turner*  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Sherry Fugate*  
ASST. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

August 24, 2021

Dear Board of Directors,

The Align Big Start, Small Start Big Finishes Initiative is a key component to supporting our families with preschool age students. COVID has had a lasting negative impact on all levels of education but especially in our younger students that are just learning how to be students. It's imperative that we spread the word to our families about the valuable resources available to them to enhance and support their student's education as they begin their educational journey. Money from the READI grant will support marketing efforts to educate families about this resource available to them.

As a former elementary school teacher and now elementary school administrator I know the importance of a solid early education. These early years of learning are essential as building blocks for continuing education.

Just as the name says it's a Small Start with a lasting impact on a Big Finish as students move through our schools and gain success toward becoming successful, productive members of our communities.

Sincerely,

Sherry Fugate  
Assistant Principal  
Austin Elementary School  
Scott County School District 1\

# SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

255 Highway 31 S. P.O. Box 9

AUSTIN, IN 47102

812-794-8750 or FAX: 812-794-8765

## BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

*Ryan Payne*  
PRESIDENT

*Kathy Morris*  
VICE-PRESIDENT

*Darlene Hall*  
SECRETARY

*Ron Adkins*  
MEMBER

*David Deaton*  
MEMBER

## ADMINISTRATION

*Trevor Jones*  
SUPERINTENDENT

*Ryan Herald*  
H. S. PRINCIPAL

*Keith Henderson*  
A. D. & Dean of Students

*Darcie Goodin*  
M. S. PRINCIPAL

*Beverly Turner*  
E. S. PRINCIPAL

August 25, 2021

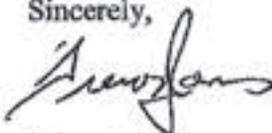
To Whom It May Concern,

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up".

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Sincerely,



Trevor Jones  
SCSD1 Superintendent



## **Lanesville Community School Corporation**

Steve Morris  
Superintendent

2725 Crestview Ave. NE  
Lanesville, IN 47136-8601

Phone: 812-952-2555  
Fax: 812-952-3762  
Email: [morriss@lanesville.k12.in.us](mailto:morriss@lanesville.k12.in.us)

Indiana Economic Development Corporation  
Indianapolis, IN

August 25, 2021

Dear Indiana Economic Development Corporation Board and Grants Committee:

On behalf of Lanesville Community Schools, I would like to support the grant proposal of Align Southern Indiana for its programs supporting the youth of Harrison County and Southern Indiana. Align has a proven track record of providing a program making a huge impact on the educational development of youth.

Align provides a kindergarten readiness program, called "Small Starts, Big Finishes." This program provides a plethora of resources to families to ensure their child is school ready. Your support will enable Align to communicate with families the critical information on awareness and how they can access these kindergarten readiness activities. As a school and state, we are focused on developing College and Career readiness in students. Your support of "Small Starts, Big Finishes" will make this focus a reality.

With the support of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, Align Southern Indiana will be able to provide the resources necessary to impact the economic development of many communities across Southern Indiana. An educated workforce and good schools are the primary drivers of economic growth and economic health of all communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Morris".

Steve Morris  
Superintendent

***Small Community—World Class Education!***



## NEW ALBANY FLOYD COUNTY SCHOOLS

Administrative Services Center  
2813 Grant Line Road  
P.O. Box 1087  
New Albany, IN 47151-1087  
(812) 949-4200  
Fax (812) 542-4743  
[www.nafcs.org](http://www.nafcs.org)

August 25, 2021

Bradley J. Snyder  
Superintendent

To Whom It May Concern:

### BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

Elaine Murphy  
President  
Jenny Higble  
Vice-President  
Elizabeth Galligan  
Secretary  
Joseph L. Brown  
Member  
Donna Corbett  
Member  
Rebecca Gardenour  
Member  
Lee Ann Wiseheart  
Member

Education is the key to the economic development of our region. We need educated citizens to attract and retain businesses. This request would provide the foundational support for growing our workforce from the "ground up".

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Very few in economic development trace their success to the start of Kindergarten, but Align has spent a great deal of time, in conjunction with other community leaders and our school district, to drive systemic change. I fully support their request to fund an awareness campaign to our families as a way of building a capable workforce for the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brad Snyder, Superintendent  
New Albany Floyd County School Corporation



August 24, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. Trails are not only an important asset for residents, but also for visitors – whether they are a primary motivator of a visit or a factor in selecting a destination. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As a destination development and promotion organization representing two of the five RDA counties, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Yours truly,



Jim Epperson  
Executive Director

# BENNETT & BENNETT

INSURANCE, INC.

*We should not judge something of value by what it cost, but by what it is worth.*

Pam Bennett Martin  
Bennett & Bennett Insurance  
351 E Chestnut Street  
Corydon, Indiana 47112

August 20, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

This letter is intended to show our support of Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan Grant application.

Our organization, Bennett & Bennett Insurance, strongly believes in the importance of a healthy lifestyle for Southern Indiana people/families of all socioeconomic statuses. Often, the ability obtain the necessary funds to obtain this lifestyle is not within reach. The Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan that Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented would allow access to trails between the five counties. The connection of these trails creates the ability to for exploration between each of these five counties unencumbered, thus opening up new opportunities for a healthier lifestyle that may be out of reach for many people.

Please consider the Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan set forth by Align Southern Indiana, Inc. as a plan that will bring connectivity, health and happiness to **all** residents of Southern Indiana.

Sincerely,



Pam Martin

President

Bennett & Bennett Insurance, Inc.

351 E. Chestnut Street  
Corydon, IN 47112  
(812) 738-2233  
FAX (812) 738-3503

3837 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812) 948-2233  
FAX (812) 941-5004

[www.bennettins.com](http://www.bennettins.com)



# Washington County Community Foundation

FOR GOOD. FOR EVER. FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

P.O. Box 50 • Salem, Indiana 47167

Phone: (812) 883-7334

[www.wccf.biz](http://www.wccf.biz)

August 19, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd.  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to fully support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s (ASI) Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

ASI's plan of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within their umbrella will not only physically connect the counties, but will help to connect them through tourism and economic development as well as through health and wellness Initiatives. Washington County Community Foundation recognizes the value of the trail system and is excited to work with partners throughout the region to develop a fantastic trail network that will be utilized for generations to come.

We urge you to consider ASI's Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as we move to the future with a regional rail network within the area.

Sincerely,

Judy Johnson  
Executive Director

*Leave a legacy. Remember us in your will or beneficiary designation form of your IRA, retirement plan or life insurance policy.*



Standard Accountability Report™  
Accredited since 2001



Department of Planning and Zoning  
500 Quartermaster Court, Suite 200  
City of Jeffersonville  
812-285-6413  
[www.cityofjeff.net](http://www.cityofjeff.net)

August 18, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

The City of Jeffersonville's Department of Planning and Zoning is pleased to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

As urban planners we realize that our City is part of a greater region and that our work does not necessarily end at our borders. Many of the amenities, especially state parks, forests, open spaces, and trails, that add to the quality of life in Jeffersonville lie outside our boundaries. We recognize our connection to these amenities, and are happy to join Align Southern Indiana in its efforts to improve the trail networks that allow our residents to get out into nature, exercise and decompress from day to day life in the City. Our organization recognizes the value connectivity between jurisdictions and need for regional planning in regard to park and trail systems.

As one of the primary planning agencies in our region, we feel that Align Southern Indiana's application for a comprehensive plan for regional trails is worthy of your support. We look forward to a better connected network of parks, trails and open spaces in and around Jeffersonville in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Reischl".

Chad Reischl  
Director of Planning and Zoning  
500 Quartermaster Court  
Suite 200  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
812-285-4712  
[creischl@cityofjeff.net](mailto:creischl@cityofjeff.net)





August 20, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

On behalf of the Harrison County Community Foundation, I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The Harrison County Community Foundation has a strong history of supporting trail development with the Indian Creek Trail here in Harrison County. We recognize the value of outdoor recreation spaces for residents and visitors as a significant quality of life feature.

We also recognize the work that Align Southern Indiana is coordinating on a regional level for trails and see countless benefits from this comprehensive planning. Thank you for your consideration of Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie K. Moorman".

Julie K. Moorman  
President & CEO





**Drug and Alcohol  
Education Services, Inc.**

August 20, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. The quality of life in our communities also directly supports healthy youth development. Connecting trails across borders is an excellent way to improve the overall value of these trails.

Our Place, a private nonprofit that has worked within southern Indiana for forty years, supports the Align Southern Indiana regional efforts. We believe Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as we look to strengthen the quality of life in our five county region..

Sincerely,

*MeriBeth Adams-Wolf*

MeriBeth Adams-Wolf CPS, LCAC  
Executive Director

**400 E. Spring Street, New Albany, Indiana 47150  
812-945-3400 Fax: 812-945-9870  
106 South Capitol Avenue, Corydon, Indiana 47112  
812-705-5169**



## Harrison County Economic Development Corporation

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111 West Walnut Street • Corydon, Indiana 47112

812-738-0120 • 812-738-0500 (F)

[www.hcedcindiana.org](http://www.hcedcindiana.org)

August 19, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. We recognize the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and I am encouraged to see that community partners are working together to develop a true regional trail network.

Additionally, a community that makes the development of trails a priority is very likely to experience an increase in visitors and actually growth in its population. This growth is more likely to be people younger than the average age of our regional residents because it is a younger group that seems to be interested in trails and outdoor recreation opportunities in general.

The Harrison County Economic Development Corporation urges you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

Darrell Voelker  
Executive Director



**South Harrison: Safe † Supportive † Successful**

---

August 19, 2021

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. This organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, I urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Eastridge", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

**Mark A. Eastridge, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools  
South Harrison Community Schools  
Edmund "Ed" F. Schneider Administrative Center  
Email: EastridgeM@shcsc.k12.in.us



# CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Office of the Assistant Superintendent • 200 Ettl Lane • Clarksville, IN 47129  
(812) 282-7753 • FAX (812) 282-7754

August 19, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. is supporting the creation of a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties serviced by Align Southern Indiana. COVID has presented an increased need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise to help improve mental health. Public school employees can definitely support the need for more ways to improve the mental health of students.

Please consider supporting the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan as a way to improve the overall quality of life for residents of our area. The many benefits of such a plan are clear, especially during the situation related to this onset of the pandemic this past year.

Sincerely,

Brian Allred, Ph.D.  
Assistant Superintendent

Sent

August 22, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana has undertaken the initiative to enhance the quality of living in five Southern Indiana Counties by taking the initiative to map, market and increase awareness of the 65 trails in five counties of Southern Indiana. This effort to coordinate, map and make the public aware of the many excellent trails and parks will have many benefits to our area including not only making Southern Indiana a more appealing place to live and visit, promote quality of life and opportunities to appreciate the beauty of the area, but it also enhances physical and mental health that inevitably goes with the time spent on these beautiful trails.

Align Southern Indiana is supported with highly competent leadership and accomplishes substantial and significant good with every dollar entrusted to it. It is supported by many dedicated and skilled volunteers who donate their time and money for the betterment of the Southern Indiana community. We appreciate your efforts in this process and ask you to consider the Regional Trails Comprehensive Plan of Align Southern Indiana as worthy of your support. We are confident that the dollars invested in this effort will be multiplied many times over with the efforts of the many volunteers and leadership.

Thank you very much.

Phil McCauley  
Retired CPA

*Sent*

Board of Directors  
Indian Creek Trail, Inc.  
245 W. Hwy 62 #153  
Corydon, Indiana 47112

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

Alisa Burch  
President  
Board of Directors  
Indiana Creek Trail, Inc.

August 24, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

Please accept this letter as strong support for the Align Southern Indiana's Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

As we all know, Southern Indiana is a great place to live and work. I have lived in Southern Indiana since 1992 and have seen lots of positive changes. There is no question that today is the best time to live and work in Southern Indiana. While we have made significant strides, significant challenges remain, and we are also at a critical time.

The biggest challenge facing Southern Indiana, and the future quality of life for its residents, is the ability to attract and retain talent. We have all seen in the past year the significant labor force challenges that employers continue to face. For Southern Indiana, this is not new. We were facing these challenges prior to the pandemic.

The capacity to increase average wages across the region, and thus the quality of life for residents, rests in our ability to grow and attract jobs that pay higher wages. This is linked to skills and talent. Thus, this is the challenge. Talent can be quite mobile. Talent will be attracted to a region that meets key needs, and much of this is linked to quality of life.

That takes us to the role of trails and the Align Southern Indiana Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan. In regions across the nation, trails have been shown to be drivers of economic development and a talent attraction asset. We all know Southern Indiana is blessed with scenic beauty. Trails are simply a way to leverage these scenic assets. We magnify the economic growth potential through trails by fully maximizing the value of the natural scenic beauty. This then serves as a significant asset in talent attraction.

Please allow me to add a personal anecdote on the value of trails. I am an avid trail user and ride the Ohio River Greenway regularly. I recently sold my home, and bought a house in downtown New Albany, specifically due to the proximity to the Greenway. I can now ride just a couple of blocks on the street and am on the Greenway in a few minutes.

The more we can connect trails across Southern Indiana, the greater our ability to attract and retain talent. The region will prosper. I think about the impact of the Little Miami Scenic Trail in the Cincinnati area, and the development that has taken place in places like Loveland and Milford, primarily due to trails. One can start in Cincinnati, and ride all the way to Cleveland, OH and beyond due to the connectivity of trails. Locally, we have the Parklands of Floyds Fork, and the tremendous asset this has been for Louisville.

Southern Indiana is in a unique position. We are located in the Louisville Metro area and are closer to downtown Louisville than many residents in Louisville. We have the scenic beauty and can be in a better position to attract talent coming to the region. Trails will be a key asset in making that happen and building a quality of life for residents that will serve as a magnet for years to come.

Thank you for all your work and everything that you are doing to build a world class destination.

Best,

*Uric Dufrene*

Uric Dufrene, Ph.D.

New Albany, IN

August 24, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Community Leaders,

I am writing this letter in support of Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has identified *Quality of Life* as a priority area of focus for our community. Within this work the importance of educating the community on the wide variety and numerous trails we have as part of our regional footprint is vital to the success of this priority. Informing, accessing, and growing these important outdoor resources are all part of a ***Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan*** that has been created. This plan outlines how work will be done to grow the knowledge of the resources and maximize utilization.

Advancing this work will have a significant impact on how our youth and families can take advantage of amazing resources right in their own backyard. Having the opportunity to be outside and enjoy sunshine and nature is always good for the soul but as we continue to learn how to live in a pandemic, having these safe resources are more vital now than ever before.

I ask you today to join me in supporting this work that will result in a more attractive, healthier, and stronger regional community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pam Ottersbach".

Pam Ottersbach  
Director, Southern Indiana  
Metro United Way



# State of Indiana

# Senate

Senator Chris Garten  
State House  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2785  
Senate: (800) 382-9467  
E-mail: [Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov)

Committees:  
Appropriations  
Public Policy – Ranking Member  
Environmental Affairs  
Homeland Security and Transportation  
Veterans Affairs and The Military

August 23, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

To whom it may concern:

I am writing today to express my strong support for the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application. The receipt of this grant money to Align Southern Indiana, Inc. will assist them tremendously in their efforts to enhance the quality of life and opportunity in their community.

The era of COVID has proven that access to trails and open spaces for physical exercise and recreation is a vital resource for individuals to maintain their physical and mental health. To address these needs, Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has developed a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to optimize access to outdoor recreation and to form a true regional trail network.

I am impressed by the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s superb job in presenting a detailed action plan to provide much-needed recreation services to the community. The organization's continued commitment to move forward with a regional trail network within the five-county area will benefit Hoosiers now and for generations to come.

I fully support the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application. I remain available to have a conversation about this process. I can be reached at (317) 232-9490, or [s45@iga.in.gov](mailto:s45@iga.in.gov). Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Chris Garten  
State Senator, District 45

AML Construction  
2916 Campion Rd.  
Floyds Knobs, IN 47119

August 23, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five-county area.

Sincerely,

Todd Rush  
AML Construction  
Business Development Director



Justin Green - Mayor

201 E. Market St., Suite 100  
Salem, Indiana 47167-2117

Office: 812-883-4265

Cell: 812-620-3324

[justin.green@cityofsalemin.com](mailto:justin.green@cityofsalemin.com)

August 27, 2021

Board of Directors

Our Southern Indiana RDA

4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board,

Please consider Align Southern Indiana's application for READI funds to promote trail usage and awareness in Southern Indiana. The direct benefits of having trailways for communities to use are far and vast. Our region needs the accessibility to find trails for their families and friends to use. As we see great economic benefits to trail systems, Align Southern Indiana is pushing that concept.

Outdoor recreation is certainly a quality of place initiative that Salem and surrounding communities need. We see this application as a fulfillment for a hunger in Southern Indiana. Not only for our residents, but for our increased tourism. This regional mapping of trails will benefit all in our RDA.

Sincerely,

Justin Green, Mayor

City of Salem



## Community Foundation of Southern Indiana

Sharon Handy  
Chair

August 24, 2021

Damon Massey  
Vice-Chair

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

S. Butch Shaw  
Secretary

Adam Neville  
Treasurer

Dear Board of Directors,

Lisa Brones Huber  
Immediate Past Chair

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Rich Bolling

Jessica Carroll

Jay G. Conner

Angie Fenton

Dr. Melissa Fry

Mike Johnson

Greg Nash

Amy Newbanks Letke

Keith Pulliam

Larry Rieke

Dr. Catherine Sherrard

J. Scott Waters, IV

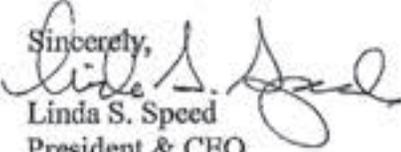
Bob Woosley

Linda Speed (ex-officio)  
President & CEO

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. The Community Foundation of Southern Indiana's recently published *2020 Priorities for Progress Community Needs Assessment for Clark and Floyd Counties* recognizes that "investments in quality of place can and do improve and enhance quality of life." (p. 87, *Priorities for Progress*). In addition, the report states that "Quality of place amenities can encourage or facilitate an active lifestyle and active lifestyles have become a central part of attracting an educated workforce and the businesses that rely on them." (p. 87). An integrated regional trails master plan leverages much more than just increased outdoor activity. We believe there is energy and organization around improving quality of place amenities such as our regional trails system in ways that will also improve our quality of life.

I hope that you will thoughtfully consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan as an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five-county area.

Sincerely,

  
Linda S. Speed  
President & CEO

August 24, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

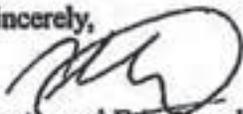
Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,



Dustin and Erin Houchin

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

  
LaGene Jeweters  
Salem, IN.

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jonathan Spaulding".

Jonathan Spaulding  
Board Member  
Park and Recreation Dept.  
City of Salem, IN

KMB Insurance  
8 Public Square  
Salem, IN 47167

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Nantz', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sincerely,  
Mark Nantz,  
President  
Knapp Miller Brown Insurance Services

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

Ki Brown

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

*Rebecca Marshall  
Salem Apothecary*

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David + James M. [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

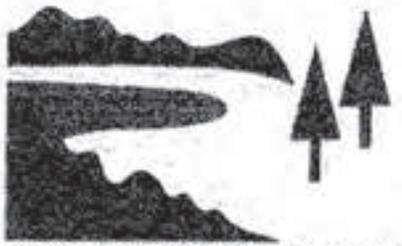
We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Callahan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.



[www.friendsofthegreenway.org](http://www.friendsofthegreenway.org)

Nick Creevy, President  
Chelsea Crump, Vice-President  
Cary Stemle, Secretary  
Susan Hoytitt, Treasurer  
Kat Guljas, Director  
Sharon Handy, Director  
Kelli Selzer, Director  
Ben Sapp, Director  
Amy Williams, Director

August 24, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Friends of the Ohio River Greenway, we would like to voice our support for the Align Soln Trails Team Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan READI grant proposal. This is a much needed project that will continue the growth and development of trails and parks in our region in a cohesive and efficient way. As trails continue to be a highly sought after resource for households and visitors this project is crucial in ensuring the development of these assets.

We have seen the development and proposals for numerous trail projects in our region over the years. However, there is no central organizing plan to ensure that these trails are developed with the greatest impact and in the most efficient way. While we support the development of these trails, it is clear that their impact could be magnified if they could be organized and supported within a regional framework. This could be especially beneficial to our smaller and more rural communities that may not have the resources to create independent comprehensive trail planning on their own.

We know that trails have a huge impact on quality of life for the people that live near them. We believe that a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master plan is an essential step in maximizing Hoosiers ability to access trails. The Align Soln Trails Team has stepped up and provided leadership to get this necessary project underway and we urge you to support this project as well.

With Warmest Regards,

Nick Creevy, President, Friends of the Ohio River Greenway

CC: Align Soln Trails Team

315 Southern Indiana Avenue, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130

[www.friendsofthegreenway.org](http://www.friendsofthegreenway.org)



**APPLIED RESEARCH  
AND EDUCATION CENTER**  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY SOUTHEAST

August 25, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I enthusiastically support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott, and Washington counties. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise and for improved mental health through stress reduction. Physical inactivity is a significant weakness in the region and mental health is a top concern. Challenges in the areas of health and mental health contribute to educational and employment performance, and in so doing affect both the region's public and private cost burdens and our economic productivity. Creating a culture of activity requires that physical activity be accessible to all at low or no cost and that we facilitate maximum use through connectivity and facilitating programs.

Trails hold strong potential for programs ranging from youth development to adult engagement and senior socialization. I recently conducted listening sessions throughout Clark, Floyd, and Scott counties. People throughout the region see opportunities for economic development related to outdoor recreation. Our region can capitalize on its natural beauty to attract visitors, build local businesses, and improve quality of place in ways that build a high quality labor force. Trails and their connectivity provide social infrastructure that promotes community and they open up options for commuting that do not rely on automobiles. In an area with significant air quality challenges, and where people want to engage with their neighbors, connected trails and parks are an investment that can help address a variety of local challenges.

I encourage you to consider Align Southern Indiana's Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan as an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five-county area.

Kind regards,

*Melissa S. Fry*

Melissa S. Fry, Ph.D.

Director, Applied Research and Education Center

Associate Professor of Sociology and Sustainability and Regeneration Studies



August 26, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I behalf of the board of directors for the Scott County Visitors Commission, I am writing this letter to support for Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. With the new era of COVID if it has done anything positive it has increased our overall awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise, as well as the benefits acquired from being outdoors and its improved mental health and stress reduction. The Scott County Visitors Commission recognizes the importance of connecting them across borders, and we are ready to work with our partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As a county and regional tourism partner, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five-county area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Chesser".

Michael W. Chesser  
Executive Director  
Scott County Visitors Commission

cc: Todd Richey, President  
Umang Patel, Vice President  
Jessica Jones, Secretary  
Joe Gibson, Treasurer  
David Wells  
Don Cooper



Lisa Brones Huber  
Gov't & Community Relations Manager  
1212 Eastern Blvd.  
Clarksville, IN 47129  
o: 812.285.6831  
c: 502.314.3019

Aug. 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors:

Duke Energy is pleased to offer a letter of support to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) application for a READI grant, which includes Align Southern Indiana's Comprehensive Regional Trail Plan.

Duke Energy supported Align Southern Indiana's regional trail plan with \$10,000 for mapping of regional trails in its five-county region in late 2020. The pandemic has highlighted the need for trails and outdoor recreational spaces to help improve our physical and mental health by reducing stress. Duke Energy recognizes the value of trails in connecting people across borders from various regions and are excited to partner to develop a true regional trail network.

We are excited about the Align Southern Indiana Comprehensive Regional Trail plan as well as other strong quality projects making up the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority application for READI funding. We believe the entire plan provides a strong quality of place initiative to help attract and grow residents in the southern Indiana region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lisa Brones Huber'.

Lisa Brones Huber



August 27, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Washington County Economic Growth Partnership, with our Board of Directors', to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. Washington County is one of those five counties and offers many trails. This tool would be beneficial to our region and would be available at a time when COVID has increased awareness of the need for trails and outdoor options for physical exercise. The Washington County Economic Growth Partnership recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

We urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five-county area.

With sincere gratitude and support of the Board of Directors listed below,

Tammi Gibson  
Executive Director



*Rhonda Smith*

Rhonda Smith, President

*Justin Green*

Justin Green, Vice President

*Eric Zink*

Eric Zink, Treasurer

*Rick Roberts*

Rick Roberts

*David Hypes*

David Hypes

*Jaden Stone*

Jaden Stone



# COTTONGIM ENTERPRISES, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

5010 E. State Road 56 • Salem, Indiana 47167

(812) 883-6602 • FAX (812) 883-6668

[www.cottongimenterprises.com](http://www.cottongimenterprises.com)

August 23, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Cottongim Enterprises' is writing to ensure that you are aware of our support for the Airfield expansion to develop an expanded 5,000 foot runway within Washington County. Salem Municipal Airport Board of Aviation Commissioners and the City of Salem are partnering together to expand the local airport facilities to better serve the needs of our community and the surrounding communities.

As a local business owner and community leader, I am aware of the need to continually grow and develop new markets to help ensure our community is able to compete with our surrounding areas for economic growth opportunities allowing us to attract more businesses to our community. We must provide services and means of access from areas beyond our local, county and state borders if we hope to improve the economic wellbeing/growth in our community.

Our airport can provide the much needed access to markets outside our local municipal borders as well as being an asset for the existing businesses to continue to grow. The overall economic development growth can be improved with an expanded airport facility allowing access for more small and medium size aircraft. This would make a positive impact on surrounding communities as well as our own city and county.

The Salem Municipal Airport is currently only capable of serving small aircraft as our runway is only 3,000 feet long. An expansion to 5,000 feet would allow us to serve both small and medium size aircraft which would provide a greater economic development resource for our community.

We appreciate your continued support of this project and we ask for your assistance to continue to implement this improvement for our economic growth.

Sincerely,

Terry Cottongim

President

Cottongim Enterprises, Inc.

*Equal Opportunity Employer*

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region/Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

The Scott County Council has many duties. The most important one is to help our community grow and make the best living experience for our residents. We keep the finances of the County within budget to help all departments run smoothly and provide the best services for our people. We see a bright future with this Our Region/Our Plan and many wonderful projects to bring growth to all of our area. We are excited to be a part of this opportunity and to see this Plan come to life.

We are pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and we continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. We recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region/Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, we support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project which contributes to the overall strategy:

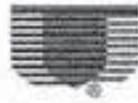
The Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project will benefit our community members along with surrounding counties members. The multi-purpose building will provide a space for everyone to have fun and be able to host other activities as well. The facilities will allow large tournaments to be played here and save those around us travel expenses. Also, bringing an increase in our tourism revenue from people out of town. The pool at the YMCA will allow our students and nearby students to host their own Swim meets and practice close to home. By improving amenities and quality of life and quality of place in our region we can attract and retain residents and businesses. Drawing in new residents will increase our enrollment in schools and increase housing and property values. Overall promoting improved health by happy residents.

Implementation of Our Region/Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. Our Council's support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years-and decades- to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of our full support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Scott County Council President Rachael Hardin , Vice-President Donnie Richey, Members Raymond Jones, Ab Watts, Lyndi Hughbanks, Diane Mullins, and Eric Gillespie.



German American Bank

Banking | Insurance | Investments

711 Main Street | PO Box 810 | Jasper, IN 47547-0810 | P: (800)482-1314

September 6, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As Market President for German American, and as my role as Board Chair for One Southern Indiana, I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

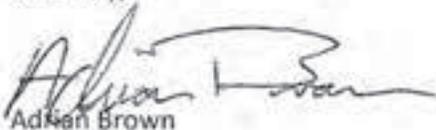
I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrien Brown", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Adrien Brown  
German American  
Market President



# City of New Albany, Indiana

Jeff M. Gahan  
Mayor

September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown RD

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Letter of Support for Floyd County's Innovation Corridor Project as part of the Regional Development Plan and READI Submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Regional Development Authority (RDA) whose members include Floyd, Clark, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington Counties, in its efforts to obtain up to \$50 million dollars through the State of Indiana's Regional Economic Acceleration & Development Initiative (READI) grant program. Specifically, the inclusion of Floyd County's Innovation Corridor Project into the final plan to be sent to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC).

Through the continued work of the Floyd County Commissioners, County Council, and their staff to revitalize and develop the western corridor of the Our Southern Indiana region; the Innovation Corridor Project will not only serve local residents, but will have an immediate and positive impact throughout the area. The project takes a comprehensive approach to infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life, meeting Governor Holcomb's call to "make transformational investments in our communities that will catalyze economic and population growth for years to come".

Included in the Innovation Corridor project:

### **Novaparke – Sparking Entrepreneurial Development**

The Novaparke campus design incorporated its natural beauty and historic significance giving it a truly unique feel. This can be seen through renovation of two existing historic barn structures on the farmstead lot to create 10,000 square feet of space for entrepreneurial and laboratory services including office, conference, classroom and maker space. The laboratory program is also part of the Gemini Innovation Hubs project with River Ridge Development Authority. The



## City of New Albany, Indiana

Jeff M. Gahan  
Mayor

proposed entrepreneurial and laboratory projects will help to develop Novaparke's capabilities as an engine for innovation in the region.

The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The University has agreed to provide faculty for business development courses; one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

### **Town Park – Enhancing Quality of Life**

The Town of Georgetown seeks to enhance its downtown as a place for the public to live, work and play. One of the main components of their recently adopted Downtown Plan is the renovation and expansion of the Town's main park. READI funds will allow for the construction of a new accessible playground and spray pad, walking paths, community gardens, and community amphitheater. Improvements to the existing baseball/softball field, seating and concessions will also occur. The impact of improving public parks can be difficult to measure.

### **Corridor Improvements**

Several infrastructure projects have been developed and will be starting within the next two years as part of the Corridor project. Among these projects, the County has been involved in improvements at three key intersections along State Road 64. The County has prioritized the intersection improvements at Corydon Ridge, Tunnel Hill and Oakes Roads. The improvements financed with local funds will be approximately two and half million dollars (\$2.5M). These improvements will provide safer and better access to the corridor. Additionally, Edwardsville Water is upgrading service through line improvements and a new water tank. The READI part of the project is the expansion of natural gas into the Edwardsville-Georgetown area.

The measured project's impact to the region in public investment is sixteen point three million dollars (\$16.3M). The identified private investment to be leveraged would be ninety-seven point nine million dollars (\$97.9M). The requested READI funding is nine point two million dollars (\$9.2M). An additional eighty-seven point five million dollars (\$87.5M) has been identified as a residential/commercial



City of New Albany, Indiana  
Jeff M. Gahan  
Mayor

development private investment that will occur outside the three-year time window. Also, payroll generated from an identified project will create eight point nine million dollars (\$8.9M) annually.

Implementation of the Innovation Corridor Project as part of the Our Southern Indiana READI Plan will provide opportunities for all of our citizens to participate in regional growth. Our support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of these strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Gahan".

Jeff Gahan, Mayor  
City of New Albany



September 6, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

Please accept this letter as strong support for the *Our Region—Our Plan* READI submission.

I have lived in Southern Indiana since 1992. I left the area in 2002 to pursue a Dean's position at my alma mater, but then returned the following year to come back to IU SE. The main reason was to return to Southern Indiana. I have lived here for almost 30 years and have a deep affinity for Southern Indiana.

As the Sanders Chair in Business at IU Southeast, I follow economic trends of the entire region, and serve as a resource to the community. I also teach finance in the School of Business.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update of the *Our Region—Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports the many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties.

Specifically, I support the 64 Innovation Corridor project which contributes to the overall strategy:

- The 64 Innovation Corridor project includes funding for Novaparke, an innovation and technology park. IU Southeast is collaborating with Novaparke and will provide faculty and student expertise that will support entrepreneurship at the park. The entrepreneur and lab space at the park will be important assets in this relationship. In essence, the



park will serve as a working lab for both students and faculty. This is a tremendous opportunity for IU Southeast and allows the campus to strengthen its mission and promote both student recruitment and retention.

- Additionally, I also strongly support the Regional Trails Initiative. As an avid cyclist myself, I have experienced and directly witnessed the impact that trails can have on a community. I have travelled and utilized some of the best trails in the country and have seen firsthand the economic impact on the entire region. The Trails Initiative can have a direct impact on attracting residents from the outside and providing a significant boost to in-migration.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Uric Dufrene*

Uric Dufrene, Ph.D.  
Sanders Chair in Business  
Professor of Finance



August 23, 2021

Dana Huber, Board Chair  
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Chair Huber,

I am writing on behalf of Elanco Animal Health in support of the Hanover College and Ivy Tech Community College - Madison request for funding from the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) program, particularly their interest in creating veterinary education programs.

Hanover College and Ivy Tech-Madison propose an innovative partnership to establish Southern Indiana as a hub for veterinary medicine. Their proposal would create a Veterinary Teaching Center housing both a Hanover College Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program and an Ivy Tech Associate's degree in Veterinary Nursing (VN). Shared facilities and resources would create a ladder of educational opportunities, providing Indiana with additional options to meet a growing demand for animal care. This partnership would help address a state- and nation-wide shortage of veterinary professionals and serve as a powerful economic development engine for Southern Indiana developing cutting-edge talent for the state's growing agribusiness and bioscience industries.

Due to Indiana's strong livestock industry and high pet-ownership rate, the demand for animal healthcare professionals is urgent and growing. Despite this demand, almost 40 Indiana counties were identified in 2019 by the USDA and the State Board of Animal Health as having crucial shortages of veterinary professionals, particularly in rural areas. In 2020, the Indiana Department of Animal Health identified 29 Indiana counties, as lacking enough farm animal veterinarians to meet critical needs. Veterinary nursing has been recognized as an "in-demand field" by the Governor's Workforce Council, making Indiana residents eligible for free training as part of the Next Level Indiana agenda. This leveraging of several state funding programs and identified needs demonstrates the value and likelihood of success of this partnership.

Elanco recognizes the critical role veterinary professionals play in the health of animals, people and the planet. They are key to ensuring an abundant food supply, assisting healthy pets to make people even healthier, and providing expertise within our business to customers that use our medicines. We see this as an opportunity to improve the economic positioning of Southern Indiana while meeting a critical need to provide more quality veterinary professionals. Hanover College and Ivy Tech's unique approach to education, partnership and Indiana placements will increase the number of veterinarians retained in Indiana. We strongly encourage OurSoIN RDA to consider the application for funding.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Lawless", is positioned below the "Thank you," text.

Julie Lawless  
Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Administration  
Elanco Animal Health



August 24, 2021

Dana Huber, Board Chair  
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Dana:

I am pleased to support the efforts of Hanover College to collaborate with Ivy Tech and Western University to provide future educational opportunities for more veterinary and veterinary nursing students in Indiana. With funding from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation READI grant program, this will be a positive for the state of Indiana. Strong future financial projections for the companion animal health industry, coupled with the current shortage of rural, small town, agriculture flavored veterinary services in the Midwest, means this investment will benefit our state for many years to come. Having been a licensed mixed animal practicing veterinarian in Indiana for over 35 years, as well as currently having the privilege of working for an Indiana agricultural financial leader, I sincerely believe we have a need for more veterinarians and trained veterinary nurses in large segments of our state, and it would be very beneficial for many Hoosiers. In discussions with Hanover College representatives, it appears that they have a well thought out plan that has an excellent chance to be successful, and thus I fully support their plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark A. Holt'.

Mark A. Holt  
President and Chief Executive Officer

# FIRST

first financial bank

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am the Commercial Banking Market Manager for the Southern Indiana region for First Financial Bank. I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the One Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties. I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
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- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region / Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me @ [Charles.Robello@BankatFirst.com](mailto:Charles.Robello@BankatFirst.com) or 502-822-4330 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Charles Robello

Southern Indiana Commercial Banking Market Manager



# CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent • 200 Ettel Lane • Clarksville, IN 47129-1898  
(812) 282-7753 • FAX (812) 282-7754

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Tina Bennett and I am the Superintendent of Clarksville Community Schools. I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

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This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tina Bennett  
Superintendent



# CLARKSVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent • 200 Ettel Lane • Clarksville, IN 47129-1898  
(812) 282-7753 • FAX (812) 282-7754

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

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This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tina Bennett  
Superintendent

**Richard M. Grassmyer, DDS  
200 E. Hackberry Street  
Salem, IN 47167-0465**

24 Aug 2021

RE: Letter of Support for Salem Municipal Airport (I83) Runway Expansion.

Dear Sirs,

I am writing in continued support of the Salem Municipal Board of Aviation, the City of Salem, and Washington County for funding to extend our current runway to its full 5,000 foot planned length.

Much has changed in the last few years, but convenient aircraft access to local communities for businesses and corporate leaders is still a priority for on-site visits. I understand that the extension would fulfill the requirements for safe turbine corporate operation.

The future of a community, as in personal life, is many times shaped by what we say yes to. This is something I am in support of saying, "Yes, let's do this!"

As an active private pilot, I look forward to having an facility both useful and a source of community pride.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard M. Grassmyer, DDS". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "G".

Richard M. Grassmyer, DDS  
Ph 812.883.3202 email docg@blueriver.net



Indiana State Department of Agriculture  
Governor Eric Holcomb  
Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Bruce Kettler, Director

July 2, 2021

Dana Huber, Board Chair  
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA)  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Letter of support for the *"Innovating for Southern Indiana Hanover College/Ivy Tech Veterinary Teaching Center"* Proposal

Dear Dana and the Our Southern Indiana RDA Board:

We are writing today to share support for the Hanover College/Ivy Tech Veterinary Teaching Center's request to be included in your region's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) plan. The Hanover College/Ivy Tech partnership is a needed development to ensure Indiana has critical veterinary professionals.

Veterinary medicine is integral to ensuring our state maintains a robust, top-ranked livestock industry, a thriving bioscience industry and a strong companion animal industry. Veterinary nursing has been recognized as an "in-demand field" by the Governor's Workforce Council, and the veterinary nursing field in Indiana is projected to grow by 27% over the next 10 years. As one of only 32 veterinary medicine schools across the country this program will not only help meet Indiana's growing demand, but it will also draw candidates from states that currently have no similar program, like Kentucky. Hanover's innovative educational model will provide its students with the knowledge they need to effectively serve our agriculture industry.

Our department supports the Hanover College/Ivy Tech Veterinary Teaching Center's efforts to be included in your region's READI plan. This teaching center will support our mission of enhancing Indiana's animal agriculture by providing our state, specifically Southern Indiana, with a workforce pipeline to meet the needs of this high-demand field. With their estimated potential economic impact of \$40 million over 10 years, this project should be a welcome addition for Southern Indiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce R. Kettler".

Bruce Kettler  
Indiana State Department of Agriculture  
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Carty".

Andrew Carty  
Indiana State Department of Agriculture  
Economic Development Division Director



Travis B. Haire, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

August 26, 2021

Dana Huber, Chair  
Our Southern Indiana  
Regional Development Authority Board  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Chair Huber & Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that Ivy Tech Community College, Sellersburg Campus, endorses the entire plan submitted by Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) for the Regional Economic Acceleration + Development Initiative (READI) Program.

Since 1963, Ivy Tech Community College has been a state-wide leader in workforce development. Positioned as Indiana's Community College and the nation's largest, singly-accredited community college, Ivy Tech offers more than 150 programs supporting industries including health sciences, information technology, business, public affairs, education, arts, and much more. With continued growth in the Southern Indiana region, Ivy Tech is keenly focused and deeply committed to providing high-quality workforce development opportunities and professional trainings.

As a wide-reaching community partner, Ivy Tech Community College fully supports and endorses this plan. We are confident the included projects will generate positive returns for our residents, communities, and our regional economy for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'T. Haire'.

Travis B. Haire, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

8204 HIGHWAY 311  
SELLERSBURG, INDIANA 47172-1879  
812.246.3301  
FAX 812.246.5489

August 27, 2021

Mr. Charlie Smith  
Town Manager of Sellersburg  
316 E. Utica Street  
Sellersburg, Indiana 47172

Dear Town Manager Smith,

Ivy Tech Sellersburg is pleased to offer this letter in support to the Town of Sellersburg's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority. Indiana's READI program is expected to propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Our Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

Town Center offers a unique live/work/play quality of place improvement in long needed in central Clark County. The Town's investments into the district and subsequent private investment perfectly set the stage for future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of our region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Town Center District. The Town's submission to the READI will continue to attract much needed investment to the community while greatly improving utility services for regional benefit.

Respectfully,



Travis B. Haire, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

8204 HIGHWAY 311  
SELLERSBURG, INDIANA 47172-1879  
812.246.3301  
FAX 812.246.5489



Travis B. Haire, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

August 27, 2021

Mr. Charlie Smith  
Town Manager of Sellersburg  
316 E. Utica Street  
Sellersburg, Indiana 47172

Dear Town Manager Smith,

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "T. Haire".

Travis B. Haire, Ph.D.  
Chancellor

8204 HIGHWAY 311  
SELLERSBURG, INDIANA 47172-1879  
812.246.3301  
FAX 812.246.5489

August 31, 2021

Board of Directors

Our Southern Indiana RDA

4100 Charleston Road

New Albany, IN. 47150

Dear Board members,

I am Judy Chastain, former Mayor of the City of Salem, Indiana supporting progression of the Washington County Family YMCA. The focus of our YMCA is on our community recreation and fitness for our families. Our YMCA is working hard to meet those needs but wanting to offer more to our community. Expansion is necessary to complete our goals.

Our facility sets on what is known as a multi generation campus. A partnership of groups coming together to fill the needs of our citizens. These active organizations have partnered to bring families together. Organizations include Salem- Washington County Senior Center, Washington County Family YMCA, Washington County Community Foundation, and other organizations. All of which are housed at one location serving each other and our community.

We are growing and need to build on the success of our YMCA facility. From the beginning our campus project members envisioned the future expansion of the Washington County Family YMCA to include an indoor sports arena.

As a former Mayor, I believe the success of any community is in attracting new businesses and families. We can achieve this by having the necessary utilities, infrastructure, great schools and family activities.

I encourage our Southern Indiana RDA & IEDC to fund the expansion of the Washington County Family YMCA.

Respectfully,

Judy Chastain



# *Jason Wade State Farm Agency*

*1320 S. Jackson St.*

*812-883-6991*

*Salem, IN. 47167*

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August 26, 2021

Federal Aviation Administration,

Jason Wade State Farm is writing you to ensure that you are aware of our support for the expansion of the Salem Municipal Airport runway from 3,000 ft. to 5,000 ft. In recent endeavors, the Salem Municipal Airport Board of Aviation Commissioners, and the City of Salem have partnered to raise funds to establish and build the new airport, build with the addition of a new runway, hangers, and an airport communication center.

As a local business owner, and an advocate for Rural Indiana Economic Growth, a fully functioning airport is vital as a draw for economic development. Many of our local businesses and factories have corporate leadership that travels to Washington County via air travel. Unfortunately, the current runway is too short for many corporate planes to land. Thus, many executives have to land 30-45 minutes away, and establish car transport in order to hold business meetings here in Washington County.

An extension of the runway from 3,000 ft. to 5,000 ft. would provide the much needed access to markets outside our local borders, and allow our established local business to continue to grow. Our overall economic development growth can be improved with the allowance of larger aircraft to be able to use our facility.

We appreciate your continued support of this project, and we ask for your assistance as we continue to foster our economic growth. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Jason Wade  
State Farm Agent

---

**Madison-Jefferson County Animal Shelter**

2727 Hannah Drive Madison, IN 47250

animal.shelter39@jeffersoncounty.in.gov

812-273-1788

August 25, 2021

Dana Huber, Board Chair  
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Ms. Huber,

I have been following the initiative by Hanover College to develop a Veterinary Teaching Center in collaboration with Ivy Tech Community College in Madison, Indiana.

As I understand the proposal, a Veterinary Teaching Center would be developed, offering the first two years of a four-year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. An Associate Degree in Veterinary Nursing would also be made available.

The success of these programs hinges on the success of the application to Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority.

As Manager of the Jefferson County Animal Shelter in Madison, IN, and neighbor to Ivy Tech Community College, I would like to express my wholehearted support for this program. Serving a community of just over 32,000 people and their associated dogs and cats, I can attest to the need for more veterinarians and the staff associated with their practices. And this in a town with 4 Veterinary offices already in place!

Being less than a 5-minute walk from the front door of Ivy Tech, and only a 15-minute drive from the campus of Hanover College, I am more than happy to offer internship opportunities at the Animal Shelter to the students of these programs. While we do not have a veterinarian on staff, my background in animal production and 14 years' experience with the shelter has taught me a lot that I would be more than happy to share.

Once again, I feel that this program would help out not just locally and throughout the state, but nationally as well. Animals as companions, and in production to meet the needs of a growing population, are both very important, and this Veterinary Teaching Center can help meet the needs of those animals.

Jenny Slover



Manager  
Jefferson County Animal Shelter

13 September 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As a County Commissioner in Jefferson County, the Jefferson County Community and the Commissioners are excited about the projects to be submitted for the READI Initiative and their future impact on our and the surrounding communities. Jefferson County is ready to be a part of the benefits that will come to the region of the Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority from the projects being submitted.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the READI Broadband Plan for Clark, Floyd, Scott, and Jefferson project which contributes to the overall strategy to develop the infrastructure for the region to development more efficiently as a region in economic development and add to the benefits of our region's appeal as a destination to people looking for places to live and work. The READI Broadband Plan for Clark, Floyd, Scott, and Jefferson project will also unite the communities in the Our Southern Indiana region and further develop the regional attitude of this area.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Bramer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Bramer  
Jefferson County Commissioner

300 E. Main Street  
Madison, IN 47250  
Telephone: 812-265-8944  
Cell Phone: 812-701-0902  
Email address: [david.bramer@jeffersoncounty.in.gov](mailto:david.bramer@jeffersoncounty.in.gov)

## Kiwanis Club of Scottsburg

P.O. Box 192  
Scottsburg, IN 47170

September 2, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region|Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI  
Submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am Al Riggle, President of the Kiwanis Club of Scottsburg. Kiwanis' mission is to improve our community by improving our kids! We support our kids through programs and projects to develop their ability to learn, grow healthy and become responsible citizens of our community among other things. The Indiana District of Kiwanis is divided into twenty-four Divisions. We are located in the Scenic Hills Division where we serve the kids with the Kiwanis Clubs in Southern Indiana such as the Kiwanis Clubs of Henryville, Charlestown, Madison, Jeffersonville, Clarksville and New Albany. Many of our programs are embedded in the schools but we also focus on developing the health and well being of our kids through participation in sports and extra-curricular activities.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region|Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth

throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy.

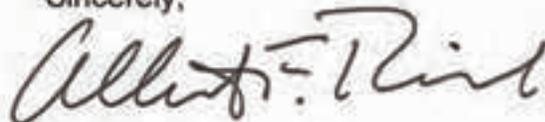
I am very proud to endorse the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex! Our recent Community Needs Assessment highlighted the need and desire for this project to support not only our kids, but the kids throughout the region with opportunities to develop athletic skills, teamwork, leadership skills as well as draw participants from outside our region giving a boost to our hotel and restaurant industry and exposing visitors to the hospitality of Southern Indiana. We expect the benefits to include a Regional increase in tourism revenue, increased enrollment in schools through new residents, increase in housing and property values, improved health outcomes, and attracting/retaining residents and businesses by improving amenities and quality of life/quality of place in Southern Indiana.

The Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex will be part of our Scott County Vision Plan, which will be completed this fall. It will consist of three sites – outdoor facilities of baseball, soccer, and softball fields in Austin; indoor facilities of a multi-purpose building in Scottsburg; and improvements to the YMCA pool with outdoor spray water park. Our community has rallied around this project and includes partners such as the Scott County Commissioners, Scott County Council, City of Scottsburg, City of Austin, Scott County School District 1, Scott County School District 2, Scott County Family YMCA, Scott County Visitors Commission and Scott County Community Foundation.

Implementation of Our Region|Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. You may reach me at [al.riggle@yahoo.com](mailto:al.riggle@yahoo.com) or 812-752-8165.

Sincerely,



Albert F. Riggle  
President, Kiwanis Club of Scottsburg

Harley Robinson <hlrobin1952@gmail.com>  
Wed 8/25/2021 9:05 PM



Forward



To:

- Kay Stokes;
- Harley Robinson <hlrobin1952@gmail.com>

Dear Dana Huber,

I have learned of a new initiative concerning veterinary education that would be located here in southeastern Indiana. A partnership between Ivy Tech Madison and Hanover College would develop an innovative Veterinary Teaching Center. This unique veterinary educational model can lead to a degree in Veterinary Medical Technology and another program satisfying the first two years of veterinary medical education which can be completed at an accredited four year DVM program.

Let me say up front that this idea is exciting to me as a veterinarian for the last 41 years in Ripley County, Indiana. With no real end in sight, veterinarians and veterinary nurses will be in high demand as state and national surveys indicate. Currently, I have been looking for more professional help for two years to no avail. To have a respected veterinary learning center in southeast Indiana would be such a blessing to this area of the state. The five vet techs that I now employ, all from Ripley County, have had to go to Cincinnati or Indianapolis to be educated.

I recently read the newly published book, Pet Nation, by Mark L. Cushing. He describes the rise of pets in the 21st Century, as they now are widely considered members of our families and deserving of excellent healthcare. This trend, or epiphany, in our nation will not subside, but continue to expand. I have personally experienced this transformation in my career and here at Laughery Valley Veterinary Hospital. The demand for compassionate, exceptional pet healthcare is high.

We have entertained interns and then hired several veterinary nurses over the course of several decades and I have been pleased to provide veterinary experience for 7 students who went on to earn a DVM from Purdue or Illinois or Ohio State. We currently employ two high school students interested in a veterinary career.

I have for the past 30 years been actively involved in raising scholarship funds for high school students in southeast Indiana as a member, and now president, of South Dearborn Dollars For Scholars. I also help raise scholarship funds for future pastors through my church affiliation. I say this to show my deep commitment to and belief in higher education. We who have been successful have a responsibility to assist the next generation in attaining their educational goals and dreams, because they will carry on the good work when we are gone.

I highly recommend funding for the Veterinary Teaching Center in southeast Indiana. I hope and expect this initiative will be an enterprise that is discussed with enthusiasm and anticipation in this part of the state. If there is anything I can do to assist or collaborate, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Harley L. Robinson, DVM  
Laughery Valley Veterinary Hospital  
812-689-6984 work  
812-528-5138 cell  
[hlrobin1952@gmail.com](mailto:hlrobin1952@gmail.com)



# *City of Austin, Indiana*

*Roger Hawkins, Mayor*

---

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: *Support for Our Region/Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI Submission*

Dear Ms. Huber,

As Mayor for the City of Austin, I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region with the goal of growing our population.

I wholeheartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan, which is an update to the Our Region/ Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy.

I believe the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project would contribute an overall regional growth and with the various activities it would offer I feel certain it would provide new opportunities for population growth in our community as well as attracting other community's involvement for many years to come.

Implementation of Our Region/ Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years and decades to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Roger Hawkins  
Mayor

RH/mt

Board of Directors  
Indian Creek Trail, Inc.  
245 W. Hwy 62 #153  
Corydon, Indiana 47112

August 14, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

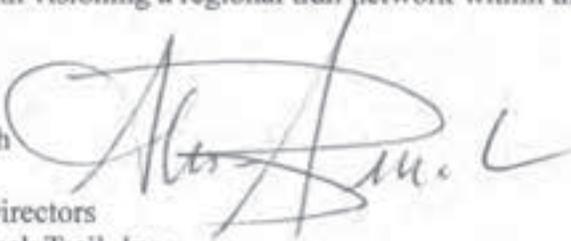
We are writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana, Inc. has presented the concept of developing a Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan for the five counties within the Align Southern Indiana umbrella. The era of COVID has increased our awareness of the need for trails and open spaces for physical exercise as well as improved mental health through stress reduction. Our organization recognizes the value of trails increases dramatically as we connect them across borders, and we are ready to work with partners to develop a true regional trail network.

As citizen trailblazers, we urge you to consider the Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan to be an effective tool worthy of support as Southern Indiana moves forward with visioning a regional trail network within the five county area.

Sincerely,

Alisa Burch  
President  
Board of Directors  
Indiana Creek Trail, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alisa Burch", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long tail extending to the right.

September 20, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission  
Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Synthia Fetz, and I work for Centra Credit Union as a Branch Sales Manager at the River Ridge location in Jeffersonville, Indiana. Centra Credit Union is a local Credit Union based out of Columbus, Indiana. We have 9 branches within the following counties in Southern Indiana: Clark, Floyd, Scott, and Washington. My role is multifaceted, rooted in providing resources, products, and education to aid in, or improve the financial health of, the members of our community. I work directly with many organizations in the area supporting them through sponsorship or volunteer work including North Clark Outreach Center, Charlestown High School, Charlestown Police Department, Jesus at Exit 0, Habitat for Humanity, United Way, and more. Our vision at Centra is to create value for our members, team members, and the communities we serve, and I feel that this value is in direct line with One Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) and the READI initiative.

I am pleased to support our local community and the collaborative effort of the RDA, whose members include the Southern Indiana and Kentucky counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Southern Indiana Region!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire *Regional Development Plan* which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

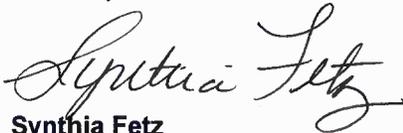
- Creating and nurturing great destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs economic development including quality jobs, housing, and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;
- Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies, and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

The specific area that I serve is the River Ridge Commerce Center (RRCC). The RRCC is a flourishing area of Jeffersonville that encompasses over 60 companies that employ more than 10,500 employees. Many industries are attracted to the area due to a competitive advantage of the region's low cost of doing business and high quality of life. The RRCC has provided jobs to many of our residents as well as bringing in new residents, thus growing our community. The READI plan will support organizations that will directly and indirectly positively impact members of our community, employees of the companies at River Ridge, and members of Centra Credit Union.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the Plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



**Synthia Fetz**  
Branch Sales Manager



NMLS# 1672199  
450 Patrol Road | Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
P 812-280-2829 | 800-232-3642, ext. 1431 | F 812-280-2839  
[Schedule an Appointment](#)  
[sfetz@centra.org](mailto:sfetz@centra.org) | [www.centra.org](http://www.centra.org)

Centered  
around **you.**



**RIVER HERITAGE**  
CONSERVANCY

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of River Heritage Conservancy, Inc., sponsors of the Origin Park project, it is my pleasure to share with you some of the energy and momentum growing around this project from leaders across our region.

Origin Park is a big project designed to transform and lift our region. And it is the scale of work that that few regions or generations successfully execute. Pulling this off requires looking around the bend for what will advance regional livability, putting a vision of land use together that knits timeless stories as one, and then follow up with a team comprised of professionals in the field with the competence, discipline, and expertise necessary to make successful execution and sustainable delivery of an iconic public landscape for all achievable. We believe this alignment is in place. Through the unique one-time Quality of our Place funding stream created by the State through the READI initiative, this transformational park can advance like a rocket and begin construction in 2022. In doing so, the nation will take note as the United States' next great urban park is built in Southern Indiana.

Supporters of this initiative include:

- **Regional Economic Development Pillars**
  - Greater Louisville Inc.
  - Southern Indiana Building and Development Association
  - Southern Indiana Realtors Association
  
- **Southern Indiana Private Employment Sector Pillars**
  - Samtec - \$800M, 6,000 employee technology manufacturing company based in New Albany, IN
  - Koetter Woodworking - \$36M, 400 employee wood products company based in Starlight, IN
  - Geo. Pfau's Sons, Company - \$20M, 50 employee company based in Jeffersonville, IN
  
- **Regional Financial Pillars**
  - First Savings Bank
  - PNC Bank
  - Indiana Members Credit Union
  - Centra Credit Union
  - The New Washington State Bank
  - WesBanco
  
- **Regional Tourism Industry Pillars**
  - Clark-Floyd Convention & Tourism Bureau

- Louisville Metro Convention and Tourism Bureau
  - Louisville Regional Sports Commission
  - Ohio River Recreation Trail
  - Ohio River Greenway Commission
  - Falls of the Ohio Foundation
  - Waterfront Development Corporation
  - Upland Brewing Company
  - Friends of the Ohio River Greenway
- **Southern Indiana Philanthropic Pillars**
    - Ogle Foundation
    - Blue Sky Foundation
    - Community Foundation of Southern Indiana

With Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Martin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Martin, Executive Director  
River Heritage Conservancy, Inc.

CC: River Heritage Conservancy READI File

August 13, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Greater Louisville Inc., it is my pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal. This project will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region. It will attract talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism.

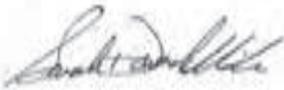
Origin Park is building on a long-held belief that great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive. A park with the design-focus found in Origin Park will revitalize the local community on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer.

Building parks of Origin's scale require a regional approach. This is a big and bold lift that is among the most imaginative ideas our region has ever undertaken. It will take our community coming together to embrace the benefits that this new space will bring in making the Louisville/Southern Indiana region one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities.

Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region. Despite diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences, they share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. They are committed to executing this project to the highest standard and with the most efficiency possible. They are also firmly grounded in a shared appreciation for what makes our region so special.

RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. We see this space where everyone is welcome, and everyone will benefit – a win-win as we strive to be a more inclusive and vibrant community. We encourage the RDA board to lean into Origin Park and secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development. In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

With Warmest Regards,



Sarah Davasher-Wisdom  
President & CEO,  
Greater Louisville Inc.

CC: River Heritage Conservancy

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## BUILDING BETTER TOMORROWS

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Building and Development Association of Southern Indiana, it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

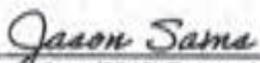
Building parks of Origin's scale require a regional approach. This is a big and bold lift that is among the most imaginative ideas our region has ever undertaken. It will take all our community coming together to create singular landscape that will be open to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities. And the community is coming together around this project. We've never seen the public, private, and non-profit communities come together around an idea the way that they have for this project.

Origin Park opens the door for Southern Indiana to benefit from the growing Louisville/Southern Indiana MSA by finally giving the North Shore a public park asset BETTER than the already great public landscapes that are today found only in Kentucky. In building this, Origin Park will create its own gravity over time (much like compounding interest and proven by the park's economic impact model), that attracts talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental injustice and benign neglect for too many years.

Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region. From diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences, they share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. They are committed to getting it done to the highest standard and with the most efficiency possible. They are also firmly grounded in a shared appreciation for what makes our region, and the State of Indiana so special.

RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. Everyone will be welcome to this space, and everyone will benefit as it propels us forward. We encourage the RDA board to lean into Origin Park and secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development. In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

With Warmest Regards,

  
Jason Sams (BDASI Chairman)

  
Christian Evans (CEO)



August 16, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Southern Indiana REALTORS® Association, it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

Building parks of Origin's scale require a regional approach. This is a big and bold lift that is among the most imaginative ideas our region has ever undertaken. It will take all our community coming together to create singular landscape that will be open to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities. And the community is coming together around this project. We've never seen the public, private, and non-profit communities come together around an idea the way that they have for this project.

Origin Park opens to the door for Southern Indiana to benefit from the growing Louisville/Southern Indiana MSA by finally giving the North Shore a public park asset BETTER than the already great public landscapes that are today found only in Kentucky. In building this, Origin Park will create its own gravity over time (much like compounding interest and proven by the park's economic impact model), that attracts talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental injustice and benign neglect for too many years.

Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region. From diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences, they share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. They are committed to getting it done to the highest standard and with the most efficiency possible. They are also firmly grounded in a shared appreciation for what makes our region, and the State of Indiana so special.

RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. Everyone will be welcome to this space, and everyone will benefit as it propels us forward. We encourage the RDA board to lean into Origin Park and secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development. In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

With Warmest Regards,

Glenda Gasparine RCE, ePRO  
CEO/Southern Indiana REALTORS® Association

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 25, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Regional Development Authority Board:

On behalf of Samtec, Inc., we are excited to share our full support for the Origin Park Phase 1 READI grant proposal. This park is a significant, transformational project that will have a tremendous positive impact on Southern Indiana. We believe this project is the most competitive project for our region's success in the READI grant process. As a global manufacturer, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create favorable conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions can thrive. In addition, significant community assets like parks are crucial to our successful talent attraction strategies at our Headquarters in New Albany, IN.

Origin Park is a massive project that requires building a regional coalition of public/private partnerships to achieve one of the most imaginative Ideas Southern Indiana has ever undertaken. Building Origin Park also aligns with the community-identified top need. In the 2020 Assessment of Needs and Priorities by the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana, residents indicated that their top priority was to have a "dual focus on improving quality of place and quality of life through investment in public and social infrastructure." Southern Indiana is ready to enjoy a wild urban landscape that will be open to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities.

Origin Park opens the door for Southern Indiana to benefit from the growing Louisville/Southern Indiana MSA by giving the North Shore of the Ohio River a public park asset, better than the incredible public landscapes found only in Kentucky today. Also, Origin Park will create its own excitement over time that will attract talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental injustice and neglect for far too many years.

Samtec, Inc. is excited to be a partner and support Origin Park Phase 1. This park will make a statement about our region's focus to leverage this unique moment to shape Southern Indiana's trajectory positively. We encourage the Regional Development Authority board to support Origin Park and secure state funding support to accelerate the park's development.

In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Shine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Shine  
President

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 13, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of Koetter Woodworking, Inc., it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see time and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

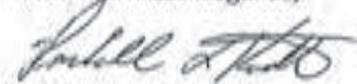
Building parks of Origin's scale require a regional approach. This is a big and bold lift that is among the most imaginative ideas our region has ever undertaken. It will take all our community coming together to create singular landscape that will be open to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities. The community is coming together around this project. We've never seen the public, private, and non-profit communities come together around an idea the way that they have for this project.

Origin Park opens the door for Southern Indiana to benefit from the growing Louisville/Southern Indiana MSA by finally giving the North Shore a public park asset that rises to the level of the great public landscapes that are today found only in Kentucky. In building this, Origin Park will create its own gravity over time (much like compounding interest and proven by the park's economic impact model), that attracts talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental injustice and benign neglect for too many years.

Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region: from diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences. They share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. They are committed to getting it done to the highest standard and with the most efficiency possible. They are also firmly grounded in a shared appreciation for what makes our region, and the State of Indiana so special.

RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. Everyone will be welcome to this space, and everyone will benefit as it propels us forward. We encourage the RDA board to lean into Origin Park and secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development. In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

With Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Koetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "R" and a stylized "K".

Randy Koetter

CEO

Koetter Woodworking, Inc.

Geo. Pfau's Sons Company, Inc.  
800 Wall Street  
P.O. Box 7  
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47131

800.PFAU.OIL  
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August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US



Dear RDA Board:

As a business that has been in Southern Indiana for over 150 years, Geo. Pfau's Sons Company would like to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and promote your support of it, as it is a project that will improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our region.

Origin Park has the potential to be a world class park that will attract wealth and talent to our area. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a large scale.

The uniqueness and grandness of this magnificent park will bring talent and growth to the north side of the Ohio River. This will take all of our community coming together to create a singular landscape that will be open to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities.

We recommend RDA's strongest support of this project that will tangibly improve our community. We encourage you to secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development, and make Southern Indiana a destination.

Sincerely,

Norman E. Pfau, Jr.  
CEO & President

Cc: River Heritage Conservancy



# FIRST SAVINGS

## BANK

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the local banking and financial services industry, it is my pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

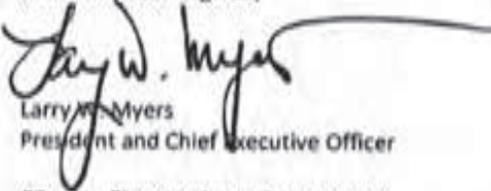
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With Warmest Regards,



Larry W. Myers  
President and Chief Executive Officer

CC: River Heritage Conservancy

501 E. Lewis & Clark Parkway Clarksville, IN 47129 | 812.283.0724 phone | 812.288.2563 fax

[www.fsbbank.net](http://www.fsbbank.net)



Charles P. Denny  
Regional President  
T 502-581-4212 charles.denny@pnc.com



August 26, 2021

Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, Indiana 47150

Dear RDA Board:

PNC believes the Greater Louisville Region benefits through parks. Parks provide green infrastructure that positively and fundamentally influences metropolitan communities they support.

The quality of place and the quality of life of the community can be powerfully improved by parks. The education, health, and economic development of the community can benefit in a diverse, inclusive, and equitable way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles P. Denny', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Charles P. Denny  
Regional President

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the local banking and financial services industry, it is my pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

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With Warmest Regards,



Bill White  
Market President

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



710 Pillsbury Lane New Albany, Indiana 47150  
tel: 812.944.1325 toll-free: 800.876.8448 fax: 812.206.4942  
www.centra.org

August 23, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the local banking and financial services industry, it is my pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

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With Warmest Regards,

Christopher L. Bottorff  
President Southern Region & Chief Sales Officer

CC: River Heritage Conservancy

Centered  
around YOU



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

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With Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jessica Carroll", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Jessica Carroll  
CEO

CC: River Heritage Conservancy





August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Adam Naville'.

Adam Naville  
SVP, Senior Commercial Banker  
WesBanco Bank Inc  
PH: 812-981-7349  
anaville@wesbanco.com

CC: River Heritage Conservancy

WesBanco Bank, Inc.  
Kentucky/S. Indiana Market  
101 W. Spring Street  
New Albany, IN 47150



July 9, 2021

Our SoIN Regional Development Authority:

I am pleased to write in support of the project submission from River Heritage Conservancy related to the development of Origin Park.

Since the announcement of Origin Park and the reveal of its design, imaginations have lit up across the SoIN region. This is a truly once-in-a-lifetime, transformational project; the benefits from this park development will undoubtedly be regional.

SoIN Tourism committed \$75,000 toward the development of the plan and design for the park. Through our Tourism Capital Development Program (TCDP), we anticipate future requests for capital funding that will likely be received positively. Since 1986, our TCDP has invested millions of dollars toward riverfront enhancements:

- Jeffersonville Riverstage
- Falls of the Ohio Interpretive Center
- New Albany Amphitheater
- Clarksville South Redevelopment

Origin Park will be the crown jewel of our long, collective effort to restore our region's access to the river.

I ask for your careful consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Epperson  
Executive Director



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

Louisville and Southern Indiana is a region reignited. It has grown in the last decade thanks to the effort and vision of many in the community. The region is now consistently recognized as one of the hottest (and coolest) places in the country to visit and live in. The region is on the move, investing millions of dollars to upgrade and renovate its attractions, hotels and convention facilities to make them all state-of-the-art and one-of-a-kind. Origin Park will take this a step further and create a public amenity of national significance that will brand our region as the nation's pre-eminent river complex.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

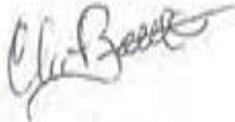
Speaking for our region, we know parks. As one of four urban centers in the US shaped by Frederick Law Olmsted, our parks are a big part of our placemaking – and placemaking is the basis for the attraction of tourism spending. Tourism is one of the largest industries in our region.

Southern Indiana does not yet have parks equal to those found in Louisville. Origin Park fixes that. And by fixing this, we complete for our region a series of riverfront parks the likes of which cannot be found anywhere else in the nation. This regional park with its regional play will deliver regional benefits for generations to come.

The amenities proposed in the master plan will create a new destination for in-bound business and drive additional economic activity for our region while making health, fitness, and wellness accessible for all, including underserved communities in Southern Indiana. The amenities proposed for this park will complement and build on existing systems giving our region truly national and globally significant infrastructure. We look forward to marketing the amenities to in-bound business including sports events, meeting planners, day-trippers, and people coming to experience the Bourbon culture and trail.

We encourage your support of this once-in-a-lifetime amenity for our region as it builds on the State of Indiana's proven competence in creating destination landscapes. There are few game-changing projects offered in this world. This is one of those.

With Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cleo Battle", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cleo Battle, President & CEO  
Louisville Tourism

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany IN 47150 US

Dear RDA Board:

The mission of the Louisville Sports Commission (LSC) is to promote active lifestyles and enhance economic vitality by attracting, creating, and hosting quality sporting events in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area. This will bring more inbound sports travel dollars to our community, enhance the quality of life, and brand our region as a great sports destination.

The LSC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization founded in 1999 as an economic development tool to attract, host and create sporting events and activities in our community that generate hotel room night visits. In recent years, we have added to the community's quality of life by promoting active lifestyles, especially with youth in disadvantaged neighborhoods, and by helping attract and retain workforce. Our 31 member Board of Directors includes leaders from local businesses, government, civic and sports organizations.

On behalf of the Louisville Sports Commission, it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region. This regionally significant asset will change the trajectory of our Southern Indiana communities.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

The amenities proposed in the master plan will create a new destination for in-bound business and drive additional economic activity for our region while making health, fitness, and wellness accessible for all, including underserved communities in Southern Indiana. The amenities proposed for this park will complement and build on existing systems giving our region truly national and globally significant infrastructure that will be able to host the highest quality sports events possible. From marathons and triathlons to whitewater competitions and adventure sports, Origin Park will place our region into a new level of competitiveness across the nation.

We encourage your support of this once-in-a-lifetime amenity for our region as it builds on the State of Indiana's proven competence in creating destination sports centers.

With Warmest Regards,

  
Karl Schmitt, President & CEO  
Louisville Sports Commission

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



## OHIO RIVER RECREATION TRAIL

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Ohio River Recreation Trail Steering Committee and River City Paddle Sports it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park would complement while being a leader to for Outdoor Recreation opportunities and park facilities for our region as well as with their adjacent lands. Below are three ways of understanding the impact that Origin Park will have and how it would fit into our region's recreation initiatives.

**Ohio River Recreation Trail** - With technical assistance from the National Park Service River Trails and Conservation Assistance Program the ORRT is working with the 40 rivertowns from Portsmouth Ohio to West Point Kentucky, 270 river miles. This past year NPS and the ORRT leadership conducted Rivertown Reviews with 7 Rivertowns in our region. The Rivertown Review facilitated by SoIN focused on Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in New Albany, Clarksville, and Jeffersonville. The [NPS final report](#) describes Silver Creek, the heart of Origin as a classic canoe trip. The report also describes in detail the need for increased trail connections, park and interpretive facilities and access to natural areas. Origin Park directly addresses these identified needs.

**The Metro Louisville and Southern Indiana Ohio River:** Origin Park is geographically in the center of recreation for 50 miles on the Ohio River from West Port, KY (River mile 630) to West Point, KY. (River mile 580). According to the Corps and local water patrol agencies river recreation has greatly expanded on the Ohio River and its tributaries. We believe that ORIGIN Park could and will serve as an anchor for a diverse and vibrant network of facilities like Waterfront Park, Waterfront Botanical Gardens, The Shawnee Outdoor Learning Center in Shawnee Park, the expanding Ohio River Greenway, the proposed trail system in West Point, Charleston State Park, one cannot leave out the expansion of the not-for-profit recreational clubs and organization. the list goes on. The local canoe and kayak club has over 1,800 members. Origin Park will not only transform brownfields into a natural area and park but will be a leader and help all the river related organizations work together to improve access, safety and understanding as well as management.



## OHIO RIVER RECREATION TRAIL

**The Falls of the Ohio Wildlife Management Area.** Origin Park is on the north side of The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Falls of the Ohio Wildlife Management Area who in 2018 completed the Area's Master Plan. The plan calls for increased visitor access and facilities. To the south west of the Wildlife Management Area Metro Louisville is planning the Shawnee Outdoor Learning Center, while to the north east, The Falls of the Ohio State Park is experiencing record visitation. Origin Park will compliment these other facilities and help meet the needs laid out in the Corp's long term recreational and ecological management plans for the area.

Finally, I also serve as the Nature Based Recreation Working Group Chair of the Ohio River Basin Alliance's Plan for the Ohio River Basin 2020-2025. We are working with all the States in the Ohio River Basin to enhance outdoor recreation. I can attest that the plans for the Origin Park are some of the most innovative, ecologically sound and community oriented that we have seen.

We encourage you to fully support Origin Park. The investment will be returned many times over.

I would be willing to speak with anyone about our support for ORIGIN Park and or any of the initiatives described in this letter.

Kind Regards,

*David Wicks*

Dr. David Wicks

Ohio River Recreation Trail Co-Chair

Dr. David Wicks

[dwicks1@gmail.com](mailto:dwicksl@gmail.com)

[David.Wicks@louisville.edu](mailto:David.Wicks@louisville.edu)

502-671-3595 (cell)

[www.rivercitypaddlesports.org](http://www.rivercitypaddlesports.org)

<https://ohioriverrecreationtrail.org/>

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 24, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Ohio River Greenway Development Commission, we are pleased to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of this project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Located in the middle of our 7.5-mile Ohio River Greenway, Origin Park will be a bold step that will take public recreation along our riverfront to a whole new level. It will build upon the investments that New Albany, Clarksville and Jeffersonville have already made on the Greenway, raise our existing Greenway trail above flood levels for year-round use, and create a true regional destination park that is unique in its design and setting. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare, and the opportunities to create them are even rarer.

Origin Park will create its own gravity over time and serve as a catalyst that attracts talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental neglect for too many years. RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. We encourage the RDA board to secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development. In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip T. Hendershot".

Philip T. Hendershot, Chairman  
Ohio River Greenway Development Commission

cc: River Heritage Conservancy



201 W. Riverside Dr.  
Clarksville, IN 47129  
www.falloftheohio.org  
812-283-4999

**Stewards of the world famous natural, cultural,  
and historical resources  
of the Falls of the Ohio area.**

**BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS**

**Bill Reedy**  
*President*

**Nicole Yates**  
*Vice President*

**Lynn Lewis**  
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**Madison Hamman**

**Ray Lucas**

**Kim Martin-Dawkins**

**Aaron Tolliver**

**Ann Wood**

**Mark Wood**

**Jill Young**

**Mark Young**

August 17, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear Regional Development Authority Board:

On behalf of the Falls of the Ohio Foundation, it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

We believe that Origin Park is in a unique position to develop a world-class public park that will - literally and figuratively - connect our communities in ways that we've not seen before. Simply put, Origin Park will enhance our quality of life while creating the conditions for people and businesses to thrive.

Origin Park is a bold plan that adds life and purpose to a forgotten landscape. Building a park of Origin's scale requires a regional approach and involves bringing our community together to create a singular landscape that defines Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities. Building upon Origin's momentum, and understanding the vision for what can and will be, the community is coming together in support of this project.

Origin Park will build upon investments already made in our Southern Indiana landscapes including the Falls of the Ohio State Park, Ohio River Greenway, and Clarksville, Jeffersonville and New Albany river parks. With Origin Park these amenities become connected and elevated in a way that will spur new growth, attract talent, and bring private sector investment and entrepreneurialism to Southern Indiana.

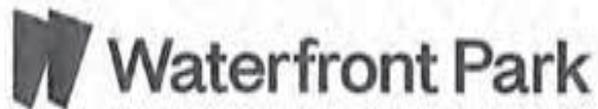
*Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region. From diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences, they share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. They are committed to getting it done to the highest standard and with the most efficiency possible. They are also firmly grounded in a shared appreciation for what makes our region, and the State of Indiana so special.*

RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. Everyone will be welcome to this space, and everyone will benefit as it propels us forward. We encourage the RDA board to support Origin Park and secure state funding that will accelerate Origin Park's development.

With Warmest Regards,

Kenton M. Wooden  
Executive Director

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of Waterfront Park in Louisville, Kentucky, it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see time and again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before.

We have witnessed this firsthand with Waterfront Park, which has transformed Louisville's waterfront from an industrial wasteland into an award-winning, vibrant destination that welcomes over 2.2 million visitors each year. Waterfront Park has an economic impact of \$40 million annually and has catalyzed over \$1 billion in redevelopment activity in downtown Louisville and surrounding edge neighborhoods.

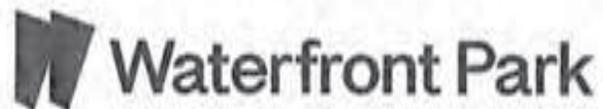
Building parks of Origin's scale requires a regional approach. As with Waterfront Park, it will take our community coming together to create a transformational landscape that will be open and accessible to all, celebrate all, and define our region as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities.

Origin Park's location along the Ohio River's north shore will complement Louisville's Waterfront Park, creating a real opportunity for a regional park system that will draw local and out-of-town visitors alike. This will place our region on the level of the great public landscapes in America. In building this, Origin Park will create its own gravity over time that attracts talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from benign neglect for too many years.

RDA support for Origin Park will make a statement about our region's commitment to taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. We

David K. Karem Building  
129 River Road  
Louisville, KY 40202

502.574.3768  
[ourwaterfront.org](http://ourwaterfront.org)



strongly urge the RDA board to secure state funding support to accelerate Origin Park's development. Doing so will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region for generations.

Sincerely,

Deborah Bilitski  
President/Executive Director  
Waterfront Park

CC: River Heritage Conservancy

August 23, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Upland Brewing Company, it is our pleasure to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal and recommend your strongest support of it as a project that will tangibly improve the livability, health, equity, and economic vitality of our entire region.

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still.

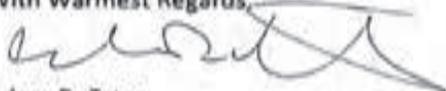
Building parks of Origin's scale require a regional approach. This is a big and bold lift that is among the most imaginative ideas our region has ever undertaken. It will take all our community coming together to create singular landscape that will be open to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities. And the community is coming together around this project. We've never seen the public, private, and non-profit communities come together around an idea the way that they have for this project.

Origin Park opens to the door for Southern Indiana to benefit from the growing Louisville/Southern Indiana MSA by finally giving the North Shore a public park asset BETTER than the already great public landscapes that are today found only in Kentucky. In building this, Origin Park will create its own gravity over time (much like compounding interest and proven by the park's economic impact model), that attracts talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental injustice and benign neglect for too many years.

Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region. From diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences, they share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. They are committed to getting it done to the highest standard and with the most efficiency possible. They are also firmly grounded in a shared appreciation for what makes our region, and the State of Indiana so special.

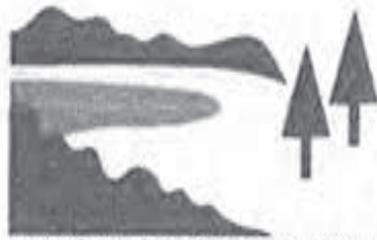
RDA support for Origin Park's Phase I will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape the trajectory of our communities. Everyone will be welcome to this space, and everyone will benefit as it propels us forward. We encourage the RDA board to lean into Origin Park and secure state funding support that will accelerate Origin Park's development. In doing so, we will maximize this moment to advance our region in ways few ever thought possible before.

With Warmest Regards,



Adam D. Estes  
Upland Brewing Co.

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



[www.friendsofthegreenway.org](http://www.friendsofthegreenway.org)

Nick Creevy, President  
Chelsea Crump, Vice-President  
Cary Stemle, Secretary  
Susan Hewitt, Treasurer  
Kat Guljas, Director  
Sharon Handy, Director  
Kelli Selzer, Director  
Ben Sapp, Director  
Amy Williams, Director

August 24, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

The Friends of the Ohio River Greenway (FOG) would like to wholeheartedly support the Origin Park project for the Governor's READI initiative. FOG believes that Origin Park has the potential to truly be a transformational project for the region and is a natural progression of the hard work undertaken to develop the Ohio River Greenway.

Origin Park is a once in a lifetime opportunity to build a world class natural park in the heart of a metropolitan region. This resource, once realized, will be a crown jewel of the region and has the potential to not only enrich the lives of citizens but also will undoubtedly serve as an attraction and point of pride. For our region to thrive, we must be able to provide a high standard of living and quality of life that will attract and retain people. Origin Park has the potential to be a major asset in achieving this.

Additionally, Origin Park is a natural progression of the Ohio River Greenway multi-community linear park and multi-use trail. Origin Park benefited from the hard work and planning the communities of New Albany, Clarksville, and Jeffersonville along with Clark County and Floyd County accomplished. These communities have spent decades in the development of the Ohio River Greenway, and this project is the fruit of this work.

We have seen tens of thousands of visitors to the Ohio River Greenway and some of the attractions along it. We are certain that the addition of Origin Park will elevate this to a new level. These visitors have already greatly contributed to the growth and development of our riverside communities and with a world class, nationally recognized project like Origin Park, this is sure to continue.

Thank you,

Nick Creevy  
President, Friends of the Ohio River Greenway

CC: River Heritage Conservancy

315 Southern Indiana Avenue, Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130

[www.friendsofthegreenway.org](http://www.friendsofthegreenway.org)

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

Dear RDA Board:

On behalf of the Paul Ogle Foundation's Board of Directors, I want to express to you our full support of the River Heritage Conservancy and its Origin Park project within your READI grant application to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

We think that the Governor was very clear from the beginning on the stated goals that he set for the State of Indiana and for this grant's objectives; that is to improve:

- Quality of Place and Quality of Life
- Innovation
- Entrepreneurship
- Talent Attraction & Development

If you fully read and understand the breadth and scope of the Origin Park project, it strongly checks every one of those boxes. This should be of the highest importance to the entire RDA Board, with its ability to have a transformative impact, well beyond our current borders today.

To further illustrate this project's importance to the Region and State, River Heritage's detailed economic impact study, clearly articulated with real-world comparative data, of its ability to:

- Be a huge tourist attraction for tens, if not hundreds of thousands of out-of-state visitors each year, bringing in millions annually in new incremental revenue for both local businesses and governments.
- Bring a totally new set of life experiences to our region, creating new opportunities for expanded healthy activities including those that will attract high-level amateur sporting events along with international athletic talent and their corporate sponsorships.
- Provides a place that helps us retain AND attract talent to Southern Indiana, including those highly sought-after individuals with higher educational credentials, that simply

want to live and raise a family near such an innovative community asset.

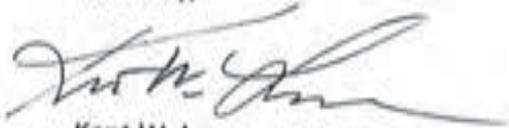
- Goes well beyond your typical stale, old government economic development efforts of years past, creating a ripple effect that casts across the broadest spectrum of the local ecosystem, attracting people and corporations seeking creative environments in which to establish zones of innovative workspace for their own future success.

The Foundation fully acknowledges our own bias with regards to this project as a founding organization and a longtime funder. We don't do things for personal nor political gain as most don't even know we exist and that's by design. We do these things because they are simply the right things to do. This is a world-class park system by design, one that will transform our lives in ways well beyond anyone's expectation or realization.

If we had to rank this project in terms of importance to the community, we would put this park project right up there with our past leadership efforts and financial support for the Bi-State Educational Reciprocity Agreements, the Ohio River Bridges project and the expansion of River Ridge over the past decades!

In closing, please take the word of a philanthropic organization that has been at the forefront of regional community leadership for the past 40 years, this project deserves to not only be included in your final submitted plan but to be funded fully as requested so as to achieve its maximum aspirational goals for all of our region and for the State of Indiana's future success.

Sincerely,



Kent W. Lanum  
President/CEO

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 25, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Regional Development Authority Board:

The BlueSky Foundation would like to endorse the Origin Park READI grant proposal. This park is one of our most significant investments to date. We believe it is the worthiest project for your support, as it provides catalytic change to positively transform our regional economic strength, health, equity, and livability. We ask for your strongest support of this project as well.

The vision for Origin Park is a simple but powerful idea. Great communities emerge from great public parks. From metropolitan areas across the United States, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive. In particular, the unique designs found in Origin Park will revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can achieve.

Parks of this scale are rare, and the opportunities to create them are even rarer. Building parks of this scale require a regional approach because it requires a big and bold lift that is among the most imaginative ideas our region has ever undertaken. It will take our entire community coming together to create a singular landscape that will be accessible to all, celebrate all, and define Southern Indiana as one of the nation's most livable and healthy communities. And the community is coming together around this project. We have never seen the public, private, and non-profit communities come together around an idea the way that they have for this project.

Origin Park opens the door for Southern Indiana to benefit from the growing Louisville/Southern Indiana MSA by giving the North Shore a public park asset BETTER than the already incredible public landscapes today found only in Kentucky. Origin Park will become a community attraction over time, bringing talent, private sector investment, and entrepreneurialism to a part of our region that has suffered from environmental injustice and neglect for too many years.

Origin Park's patrons and leaders come from across the region. From diverse perspectives, communities, and experiences, they share a common interest in making a lasting difference through this new public landscape. Regional Development Authority's support for Origin Park Phase 1 will make a statement about our region's seriousness in taking this unique moment to positively shape our communities' trajectory. We encourage you to lean into the opportunity with Origin Park and secure state funding support that will accelerate development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rudy Spencer".

Rudy Spencer  
Managing Director, Foundation

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



## Community Foundation of Southern Indiana

Sharon Handy  
*Chair*

August 26, 2021

Damon Massey  
*Vice-Chair*

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
ATTN: Board of Directors  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150, US

S. Butch Shaw  
*Secretary*

Dear RDA Board:

Adam Naville  
*Treasurer*

Southern Indiana is a region reignited. It has grown in the last decade thanks to the effort and vision of many in the community. The region is now consistently recognized as one of the hottest (and coolest) places in the country to visit and live in. The region is on the move, Origin Park will take this a step further and create a public amenity of national significance that will brand our region as the nation's pre-eminent river complex.

Lisa Brones Huber  
*Immediate Past Chair*

Rich Bollig

Jessica Carroll

Jay G. Conner

Angie Fenton

Dr. Melissa Fry

Mike Johnson

Greg Nash

Amy Newbanks Letke

Keith Pulliam

Origin Park is building on an idea as old as time. Great communities are not accidents or happenstance. From metropolitan areas in the US, Asia, and Europe, we see and time again that investments in world-class public parks create the conditions where people, businesses, and entire regions thrive as never before. Parks with the design-focus found in Origin Park revitalize communities on a scale that few other public/private partnerships can. Parks of this scale are rare. The opportunities to create them are even rarer, still. Thus, our Foundation supported this work by making our first, and largest, contribution for a public placemaking amenity by supporting the pilot blueway activation initiative underway today by the Origin Park team.

Speaking for our region, we know the power of public parks. As one of four urban centers in the US shaped by Frederick Law Olmsted, our signature parks are a big part of our placemaking – and placemaking is the basis for the attraction of talent and place.

Larry Rieke

Dr. Catherine Sherrard

J. Scott Waters, IV

Bob Woosley

Linda Speed (ex-officio)  
*President & CEO*

Southern Indiana does not yet have parks equal to those found in Louisville. Origin Park fixes that. And by fixing this, we complete for our region a series of riverfront parks the likes of which cannot be found anywhere else in the nation. This regional park with its regional play will deliver regional benefits for generations to come.

The amenities proposed in the master plan will create a new destination for in-bound business and drive additional economic activity for our region while making health, fitness, and wellness accessible for all, including underserved communities in Southern Indiana. The amenities proposed for this park will complement and build on existing systems giving our region truly national and globally significant

infrastructure. The park will help solve our challenges with public health, accessible outdoor recreation, and equitable delivery of great public assets to communities that need those facilities the most.

We encourage your support of this once-in-a-lifetime amenity for our region as it builds on the State of Indiana's proven competence in creating destination landscapes. There are few game-changing projects offered in this world. This is one of those.

With Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Speed".

Linda Speed, President  
Louisville Community Foundation

CC: River Heritage Conservancy



August 30, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region*|*Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

Washington County is fortunate to be a part of the *Our Region*|*Our Plan* Economic Development Plan. While our county has come a long way with economic development in the last six years, we see a very bright future for development and a better quality of life for our residents. As Executive Director, I have had the opportunity to witness how collaboration between counties results in a stronger region and have appreciated the working groups and excitement of the possibility of moving projects into fruition.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region* | *Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the seven Washington County projects which contribute to the overall strategy

Implementation of *Our Region* | *Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tammi Gibson  
Executive Director



WASHINGTON COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

---

Monday, August 30, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am the new Executive Director for the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. I have spent the last six years working in the Chamber Professional world, and I understand how economic development and business improvements can have a positive impact on a community.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA). The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

I passionately support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December of 2019. It supports many great projects which will inspire population and economic growth throughout the five counties.

My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the obstacles and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Erik Bush".

Erik Bush, CP

Executive Director of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce  
99 Public Square, Suite 201, Salem IN 47167 | Phone: (812) 883-4303



# Washington County Community Foundation

FOR GOOD. FOR EVER. FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

P.O. Box 50 • Salem, Indiana 47167

Phone: (812) 883-7334

[www.wccf.biz](http://www.wccf.biz)

August 30, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd.  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

What an exciting time to live and work in Southern Indiana! I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate regional growth. My support of this is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Judy Johnson  
Executive Director

*Leave a legacy. Remember us in your will or beneficiary designation form of your IRA, retirement plan or life insurance policy.*



Business Accrediting Agency  
Accredited since 2010



## **LITTLE SANDY RANCH**

---

P.O. Box 1307

Pinedale, WY 82925

Ph: 307-367-2867

August 25, 2021

Attn: To Whom it May Concern

This is to confirm our support for the improvement of the Salem, IN airport (I83).

We travel to Salem from Wyoming four to six times per year in our TBM and would utilize the Salem airport if the runway were to be extended to 5000 feet, automated weather (AWOS/METAR) is installed for flight planning/landing safety, Jet A+ is available, and at least one RNAV instrument approach is developed for the airport.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "KH", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kirby Hedrick

President / Pilot

Socata TBM N930KA

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and  
READI submission  
Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Michael Hall and I'm an Executive Advisor for [Culture Index](#); a strategic advisory firm that works exclusively with leaders and management to scale and transform organizations using Applied Psychometric Analytics Traits ("Moneyball for CEOs").

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs economic development quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;

- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;
- Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Michael G. Hall**  
**Executive Advisor**  
**Culture Index – Louisville Metro**  
Direct: 502-303-2164  
[www.CultureIndex.com](http://www.CultureIndex.com)

September 21, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Kyleigh Mazer and I am a Business Coach with ActionCOACH Bluegrass/Southern Indiana.

I am pleased to support our local community and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Southern Indiana Region!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs economic development quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;
- Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Kyleigh Mazer

**Kyleigh MAZER, MBA**

Business Coach  
ActionCOACH Bluegrass

9300 Shelbyville Rd. #506 | Louisville, KY 40222

O: 812.670.5005

C: 502.214.0717

[actioncoachbluegrass.com](http://actioncoachbluegrass.com)



Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I have the privilege of representing Hosparus Health and Pallitus Health Partners. Our organization provides care for our regions chronic and terminally ill.

I am pleased to support our local community and the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. Hosparus and Pallitus serves residents in each of these countries. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to Southern Indiana Region!

I have lived in Southern Indiana my entire life and we are truly the definition of *community*.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Lindsey Fleming**  
Outreach Manager  
**HOSPARUS HEALTH**  
502 Hausfeldt Lane / New Albany, IN 47150  
c: 502-526-8971  
24/7: 800-264-0521 / [HosparusHealth.org](https://HosparusHealth.org)

September 16, 2021

Secretary Brad Chambers  
Indiana Economic Development Corporation  
One North Capitol Avenue  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Secretary Chambers,

I am a long-term advocate for the region and for the state's efforts to effectively promote regional economic development collaboration. While I have a background in government, public affairs and business advocacy, I have more recently been involved in small business and small family farm management.

I am pleased to support my local communities and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to Southern Indiana as a region.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

- Kevin S. Kellems, Vice Chairman
- Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority
- [Kevin@KevinKellems.com](mailto:Kevin@KevinKellems.com) / 202.674.6400

September 15, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission  
Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Leigh Anne Kennedy and I am an independent property/casualty insurance agent licensed in IN, OH & KY and based in Southern Indiana.

I am pleased to support our local community and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Southern Indiana Region!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs economic development quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;
- Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

A regional focused development opportunity can support my business by bringing new businesses and residents to the area.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding

award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Leigh Anne Kennedy

please check out our website: [www.nelsoninsurancegroup.com](http://www.nelsoninsurancegroup.com)



*Celebrating 45 years in 2020*

Leigh Anne Ferreri-Kennedy, CIC  
Nelson Insurance Agency, Inc.  
213 Maplewood Drive  
Clarksville, IN 47129  
O: 502-736-7000 ext 179  
C: 502-836-8200  
Fax 502-736-7001  
[leighanne@nelsoninsurancegroup.com](mailto:leighanne@nelsoninsurancegroup.com)



August 16, 2021

Dana Huber, Board Chair  
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Ms. Huber,

I am writing to show support for the development of the Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College in collaboration with Ivy Tech Madison. The initiative to partner these two institutions not only provides a phenomenal opportunity for students participating in the program, but would also be advantageous for the city of Madison, and Jefferson County community.

As you may know, relationship building and connections are the crux of a small town. As a representative of the Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, we are consistently championing partnerships that will build relationships and create a lasting effect for our community, residents, and visitors. Hanover College and Ivy Tech Madison are both special entities of connection and relationship building for Madison. To see them partner for such an extraordinary program is the unification that will bring continuous collaboration in the years to come. This not only showcases partnership for students that will participate in the program, but also for our community, as united together we create a community experience where all feel valued, appreciated, and welcome.

Additionally, I am thrilled of the possibilities that this program could provide to our agricultural community. Madison is fortunate to have local farmers that provide resources to our local businesses. The Veterinary Teaching Center would be an outstanding resource for farmers with large animals, and I believe students would learn and experience the work and labor of love from owning a small, local farm. What a full circle moment for students to have a helping hand in providing plentiful resources for the community they are living and learning in. As a graduate of Hanover College, and now a resident in Madison, Indiana, I believe it is of the utmost importance to create opportunities for college students to want to live and learn in our community. Additionally, to form an atmosphere and desire to continue to work in Madison area after graduation. I believe that the Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College, in collaboration with Ivy Tech will provide such an experience.

Thank you to Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority, for being an advocate and support for local efforts for the improvement of local communities. I am appreciative and thankful for all you do, and I appreciate your consideration of this letter of support for the Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College, in collaboration with Ivy Tech.

Sincerely,

Emilee Roberts  
Executive Director  
Madison Area Chamber of Commerce



# City of New Albany, Indiana

Jeff M. Gahan  
Mayor

September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown RD

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Letter of Support for Floyd County's Innovation Corridor Project as part of the Regional Development Plan and READI Submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Regional Development Authority (RDA) whose members include Floyd, Clark, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington Counties, in its efforts to obtain up to \$50 million dollars through the State of Indiana's Regional Economic Acceleration & Development Initiative (READI) grant program. Specifically, the inclusion of Floyd County's Innovation Corridor Project into the final plan to be sent to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC).

Through the continued work of the Floyd County Commissioners, County Council, and their staff to revitalize and develop the western corridor of the Our Southern Indiana region; the Innovation Corridor Project will not only serve local residents, but will have an immediate and positive impact throughout the area. The project takes a comprehensive approach to infrastructure, economic development, and quality of life, meeting Governor Holcomb's call to "make transformational investments in our communities that will catalyze economic and population growth for years to come".

Included in the Innovation Corridor project:

### **Novaparke – Sparking Entrepreneurial Development**

The Novaparke campus design incorporated its natural beauty and historic significance giving it a truly unique feel. This can be seen through renovation of two existing historic barn structures on the farmstead lot to create 10,000 square feet of space for entrepreneurial and laboratory services including office, conference, classroom and maker space. The laboratory program is also part of the Gemini Innovation Hubs project with River Ridge Development Authority. The



## City of New Albany, Indiana

Jeff M. Gahan  
Mayor

proposed entrepreneurial and laboratory projects will help to develop Novaparke's capabilities as an engine for innovation in the region.

The purpose of these facilities is to provide space for the development of start-up companies in life science, advanced manufacturing, bio-technology, space and defense sectors. In addition to the space, entrepreneurs will have access to resources through a collaboration agreement with Indiana University Southeast. The University has agreed to provide faculty for business development courses; one on one consultation, business research assistance and mentoring in the county's accelerator program.

### **Town Park – Enhancing Quality of Life**

The Town of Georgetown seeks to enhance its downtown as a place for the public to live, work and play. One of the main components of their recently adopted Downtown Plan is the renovation and expansion of the Town's main park. READI funds will allow for the construction of a new accessible playground and spray pad, walking paths, community gardens, and community amphitheater. Improvements to the existing baseball/softball field, seating and concessions will also occur. The impact of improving public parks can be difficult to measure.

### **Corridor Improvements**

Several infrastructure projects have been developed and will be starting within the next two years as part of the Corridor project. Among these projects, the County has been involved in improvements at three key intersections along State Road 64. The County has prioritized the intersection improvements at Corydon Ridge, Tunnel Hill and Oakes Roads. The improvements financed with local funds will be approximately two and half million dollars (\$2.5M). These improvements will provide safer and better access to the corridor. Additionally, Edwardsville Water is upgrading service through line improvements and a new water tank. The READI part of the project is the expansion of natural gas into the Edwardsville-Georgetown area.

The measured project's impact to the region in public investment is sixteen point three million dollars (\$16.3M). The identified private investment to be leveraged would be ninety-seven point nine million dollars (\$97.9M). The requested READI funding is nine point two million dollars (\$9.2M). An additional eighty-seven point five million dollars (\$87.5M) has been identified as a residential/commercial



City of New Albany, Indiana  
Jeff M. Gahan  
Mayor

development private investment that will occur outside the three-year time window. Also, payroll generated from an identified project will create eight point nine million dollars (\$8.9M) annually.

Implementation of the Innovation Corridor Project as part of the Our Southern Indiana READI Plan will provide opportunities for all of our citizens to participate in regional growth. Our support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of these strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeff Gahan".

Jeff Gahan, Mayor  
City of New Albany



## New Albany Housing Authority

Tony Toran, Deputy Executive Director

August 17, 2021

Dr. Travis Haire, Chancellor  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Sellersburg Campus  
8204 Highway 311  
Sellersburg, IN 47172

Dear Dr. Haire,

The New Albany Housing Authority is a long-standing supporter of Ivy Tech Community College as we recognize your important role as a critical workforce partner throughout the region. Ivy Tech is dedicated to preparing students to be successful in the workplace by strategically and holistically supporting student needs. This approach is critical to our ability to meet current and future workforce needs to support regional growth.

We are excited that Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House have embarked on a bold but thoughtful regional initiative encompassing affordable housing, education, life and career support services, and a workforce focus dedicated to lifting the prospects of those in need. This 42-unit campus would serve 75-100 residents by providing housing and comprehensive services to assist low-income individuals, with a focus on those who are single parents and young adults formerly in foster care.

Through wraparound services, individuals will have the supports needed to pursue degrees, certifications, or apprenticeships in the fields of their choice leading to self-sufficiency through livable wage careers. Further, this location will serve as a resource center for any in the community seeking connection to other available resources.

New Albany Housing Authority fully supports this READI application submission and funding request as this project will continue to generate positive returns for students and their families while also ensuring broad benefits across workforce sectors.

Sincerely,

Tony Toran  
Deputy Executive Director  
New Albany Housing Authority



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region|Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

The Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission is a community and economic development agency serving nine counties in southeastern Indiana. Jefferson County is a member of our nine county organization.

I would like to offer my support to our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is coordinating efforts in the RDA region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, which has helped build a foundation in enhancing quality of life within the region. The strategies identified are critical towards the continued growth of the region.

On behalf of the SIRPC economic development district, we offer our support to the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the RDA region.

Implementation of the Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for regional citizens to participate in our regional growth. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of the support of the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Susan A. Craig  
Executive Director, SIRPC





August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As the leader of Greater Louisville Inc., the Metro Chamber of Commerce, I am reaching out to express my support of *Our Region | Our Plan*. GLI represents businesses in 15 counties across Kentucky and Southern Indiana and serves as the project manager of the Greater Louisville Regional Partnership. Continued growth in Southern Indiana is critical to the long-term success of our regional economy, which is why I am supportive of the growth that this new plan will bring.

The Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy. GLI applauds Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. These types of investments will create and improve attractive community amenities, which are critical to attracting top talent and businesses to the region. These regional strategies will maximize Southern Indiana's value and impact to the 1.269 million current residents, with the goal of continuing to attract new talent and residents to the region.

I whole-heartedly support the Regional Development Plan, which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) in December, 2019. The plan supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five Southern Indiana counties – Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. Specifically, I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the following priorities:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for community engagement as we strive for regional growth. I am confident that this plan, and all of its individual strategies and projects, will bring exciting benefits to Southern Indiana businesses and individuals. I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of this plan and grant a needed funding award to bring these strategies and projects to fruition.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Sarah Davasher-Wisdom  
President & CEO  
Greater Louisville Inc.



Bob G. Courtney  
MAYOR

(812) 265-8300  
email: mayor@madison-in.gov

City of Madison  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

101 W. MAIN STREET  
MADISON, INDIANA 47250-3775

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As the Mayor of the City of Madison, IN and an active participant in the work of Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the RDA, whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.3 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy, approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the **Destination Madison** and the **Hanover College and Ivy Tech Veterinary Teaching Center** project, which contribute to these overall strategies:

1. Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors:
2. Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities:
3. Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing, and public spaces in the region:
4. Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas:
5. Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region:
6. Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies, and governments; and
7. Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob G. Courtney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bob G. Courtney  
Mayor, City of Madison



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

GREG FISCHER  
MAYOR

September 1, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Ms. Huber:

As mayor of Louisville, KY, I know all too well how important regionalism is to the success of not just our city but our metro area. I am pleased to support our collaborative effort of the One Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.3 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. I give my full support of this Plan which is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Greg Fischer  
Mayor

[WWW.LOUISVILLEKY.GOV](http://WWW.LOUISVILLEKY.GOV)



PURDUE POLYTECHNIC NEW ALBANY

August 27, 2021

Dr. Travis Haire, Chancellor  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Sellersburg Campus  
8204 Highway 311  
Sellersburg, IN 47172

Dear Dr. Haire,

Purdue Polytechnic Institute New Albany fully supports Ivy Tech Community College as they further workforce education in the region to support regional growth.

We are excited that Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House have proposed this regional initiative encompassing affordable housing, education, life and career support services, and a workforce focus dedicated to lifting the prospects of those in need. This 42-unit campus would serve 75-100 residents by providing housing and comprehensive services to assist low-income individuals, with a focus on those who are single parents and young adults formerly in foster care. Through wraparound services, individuals will have the supports needed to pursue degrees, certifications, or apprenticeships in the fields of their choice leading to self-sufficiency through livable wage careers. Further, this location will serve as a resource center for any in the community seeking connection to other available resources.

Purdue Polytechnic Institute New Albany can help support this project by making available our Student Services personnel to visit to discuss Purdue's programs and by partnering with Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House to offer STEM summer camps. We fully support this READI application submission and funding request as this project will continue to generate positive returns for students and their families while also ensuring broad benefits across workforce sectors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Dues, Jr.", written over a light blue rectangular background.

Joseph F. Dues, Jr., PE  
Associate Professor – Mechanical Engineering Technology  
Director – Purdue Polytechnic New Albany  
New Albany, IN



## AMERICA PLACE

September 14, 2021

Dear Ms. Huber:

America Place is a leading commercial developer and property manager in Southern Indiana with our headquarters located within River Ridge. As Executive Vice President, I have been able to witness the growth in the community thanks to so many in the region. As such, I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

While I am actively involved in supporting the River Ridge Learning Center and believe it is a tremendous and worthy project, I also whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

In particular, I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region / Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding.



## AMERICA PLACE

award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lyn Longmeyer  
Executive Vice President



**BUILDING BETTER TOMORROWS**

September 1, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region*|*Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

The Building and Development Association of Southern Indiana (BDASI) is committed to promoting the region's new-home construction, educating both our members and consumers on the homebuilding industry's standards, practices and happenings, and providing networking opportunities to encourage member business opportunities and success. Our association provides to its members advocacy, education, networking and community outreach while encouraging smart growth for the long term economic stability of our community. The BDASI represents builders, developers and construction related industries in Clark, Floyd, Harrison, Scott and Washington Counties.

The BDASI Executive Committee is pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and we continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. We recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region* | *Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties.

Implementation of *Our Region* | *Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of our full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Christian Evans  
CEO

Dear Ms. Huber,

I would like you to know that I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan, an update to the Our Region / Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019.

The Plan supports many great projects which will spur population growth and economic growth throughout the five counties - Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington.

I live in Scott County and am therefore specifically interested in seeing the regional sports complex be developed and completed in Scottsburg. With the city's location being on either side of Interstate 65, it would be an ideal location for such a complex.

Such a facility would add considerably to the region's ability to attract visitors from within and from outside the region, would encourage business development and would demonstrate that this region has amenities that could persuade people that they should strongly consider living here.

My support of this plan is inclusive of the strategies and projects of Our Region / Our Plan and I hope that the READI Initiative will show its support with a funding award.

Sincerely

Chris Wakeman  
Bridge Realtors, LLC  
812-595-3678  
chriswakeman@bridgerealtors.com



August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

***Subject: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission***

Dear Ms. Huber:

As a regional water system serving over 100,000 residents of Southern Indiana, I want you to know of our whole-hearted support of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority's Regional Development Plan. While our retail water customers are primarily located in Clark and Floyd counties, we also provide wholesale water service to water utilities currently operating in all five counties of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA). And personally, as a Board Member of One Southern Indiana, now and at the time the RDA was formed, it is rewarding to see this plan come together. We are hopeful that it will spur projects that will continue to improve our 'quality of life' and 'quality of place' for our current residents and the future residents attracted to our region.

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority, whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to Southern Indiana and the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I am glad to confirm our support of the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;



## AMERICAN WATER

- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

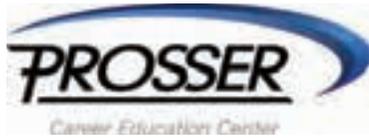
Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William J. Reedy, P.E.  
Indiana American Water Company





4202 Charlestown Road, New Albany, IN 47150 Ph.: 812-542-8508 Fax: 812-542-4799

Dr. Kyle Lanoue  
*CTE Program Director*

Mrs. Nancy Campbell  
*Principal*

Mrs. Jamie Green  
*Assistant Principal*

September 3, 2021

Regional Development Authority  
Board Members  
C/O 1si, 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I offer Prosser's full support for the Region's Plan for Economic Development. It is obvious that a great deal of research and effort has gone into the development of the plan. I am thrilled to see the plan so eloquently touch the lives of every citizen of our beautiful region.

Prosser Career Education Center serves six counties in Southern Indiana. As a Career Education Center, we are committed to the ongoing development of career skills. Particularly career skills that focus to positively impact our region and bring about economic stability and even growth. In many ways, the RDA plan serves to enhance and foster new avenues of population growth, job skills training, and talent retention which align with Prosser's own mission. On behalf of CTE District #45 and the more than twenty schools that make up our consortium at Prosser Career Education Center, we enthusiastically offer our full support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Lanoue", is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Kyle D. Lanoue, Ph.D.  
CTE Program Director  
Prosser Career Education Center



8/31/2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Amall Business Navigator Program/Revolving Loan Fund– Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am an attorney and owner of Momentum Title Agency, a residential and commercial title agency with offices in Southern Indiana and Louisville. I also live in New Albany and am active throughout our Southern Indiana Community through Boards such as One Southern Indiana, Leadership Southern Indiana, The Arts Alliance of Southern Indiana and The Center for Women and Families. I am proud to be a part of this community that is so rich and vibrant and could not be more excited about all the future holds.

As a resident, local business owner, member and Board Chair of AASI and Chair Elect for One Southern Indiana, I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I am in full support of the entire Regional Development Plan which has been under development since Spring, 2021. Specifically, I support the Small Business Navigator Program/Revolving Loan Fund project which is included in the overall strategy. As you are aware, One Southern Indiana (1si) is asking for \$125,000 from READI to establish a Small Business Revolving Loan Fund. The fund will support all five counties within the RDA.

The Revolving Loan Fund will help strengthen the RDA region by assisting potential and current business owners achieve their dreams. With the intent to build strong business communities, main streets and

4206 Charlestown Rd.  
New Albany, IN 47150  
(812)941-8980

1994 Charlestown New Albany Pike  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
(812)800-9120

1500 Ormsby Station Court  
Louisville, KY 40223  
(502)491-6417

[www.Momentumclosings.com](http://www.Momentumclosings.com)

entrepreneurship, 1si will be a small business lender, and in some cases, the lender of last resort. While assisting new businesses with capital, the program will create jobs and enhance the quality of place in our communities. In partnership with the Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC, Render Capital, Caesars Foundation of Floyd County and many other community partners, 1si will empower individuals and business owners through education, counseling, mentoring, match-making, financial literacy programs and lending. The 1si lending program will be inclusive. There will be a focus in minority and rural communities to assist in eradicating barriers to lending. 1si will practice fair lending and will be held accountable to all fair lending laws. As a small business owner myself, I understand this great need and believe it will lead to much growth and attraction of business to our region.

Implementation of the *Regional Development Plan* will assist in our regional growth for years and decades to come. Our support of this plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of 1si's full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Laurie Kemp  
Momentum Title Agency, LLC  
(812)800-9120

September 15, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Amanda Alexander, I am the Office Manager and Director of Solutions for Transformation Network. Transformation Network is a Christian Non-Profit Staffing agency that serves the at risk and high risk demographic of our community through industrial staffing.

I am pleased to support our local community and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Southern Indiana Region!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs economic development quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;

- Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies and governments;  
and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Amanda Alexander**  
**Branch Manager | Director of Solutions**

Transformation Network  
639 Eastern Blvd  
Clarksville, IN 47129

(O) [812-282-2810](tel:812-282-2810)

(F) [812-282-2812](tel:812-282-2812)

(T) 502-230-6011

[www.transformationnetwork.org](http://www.transformationnetwork.org)



August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As the Chair for the Metro Manufacturing Alliance and as a premier manufacturer of the Southern Indiana region, Cimtech Inc. I write to share my excitement about the Regional Development Plan. With this initiative, the ability to elevate manufacturers, the backbone of our economy will prove tremendous and provide much needed support, particularly with manufacturing / construction being the last industry segments to be greatly impacted.

I am pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties. Moreover, it will elevate the manufacturing community- thus reinforcing that economic backbone.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;



- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

If we evaluate all these addressed areas (Connection, Collaboration, Infrastructure, Education, Workforce, Natural Assets), we all rise!

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Jesika Young**

Chair - Metro Manufacturing Alliance

**Jesika Young**  
**TEAM MEMBER**  
President & CEO

325 Park East Blvd.  
New Albany, IN 47150

Phone: 812-948-1422 Extension: 1160  
Cell: 812-914-1654  
E-mail: [jesika@cimtechmachine.com](mailto:jesika@cimtechmachine.com)  
[www.cimtechmachine.com](http://www.cimtechmachine.com)

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CERTIFIED

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Women's Business Enterprise

**MANUFACTURING** TOP 10  
PRECISION MANUFACTURING  
TECH SOLUTION PROVIDERS - 2020



Scott County  
Community Foundation

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Ryan Payne

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*Executive Director*

Charlotte Boswell  
*Financial Officer*

August 30, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

Scott County has faced many challenges over the last several years. From consistently ranking at the bottom of the County Health Rankings through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to being the epicenter of the HIV outbreak, we have found ourselves in the spotlight for all the wrong reasons. What others did not see from the news is the heart of our residents. The neighbor who will mow your lawn when you aren't able...the community who rallies around a sick child with fundraisers to support the family during their time of need...the kids who spend their down time volunteering in the community. These are just a few of the many reasons that make our rural community a great place to live.

As Executive Director of the Scott County Community Foundation, I have seen the obstacles as well as the opportunities for our community for many years. We commissioned a Community Needs Assessment last year that shared perceptions and strategies for how we can create a better quality of life for our residents. This study has led to the creation of a community development tool, the Scott County Vision Plan, which will be published this fall. All of these planning efforts complement the region's work to develop a shared vision that will elevate Southern Indiana to a premier destination to live, work, and play.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

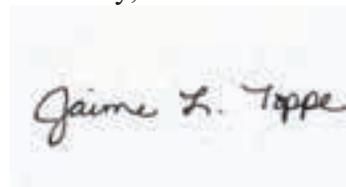
*Looking Forward, Giving Back.*

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which will increase tourism revenue, improve our health outcomes, attract and retain residents, and provide a better quality of life/place. This impact will be felt by not only those in Scott County, but also the RDA region and other neighboring counties. With easy access to I-65 and centrally located within our region, the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex will provide an opportunity for Scott County to be on the map for all the right reasons. It will allow our community to make our planning efforts a reality.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 812.752.2057 or email [Jaime.toppe@scottcountyfoundation.org](mailto:Jaime.toppe@scottcountyfoundation.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jaime L. Toppe". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light blue rectangular background.

Jaime Toppe  
Executive Director

*Looking Forward, Giving Back.*

September 15, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair c/o

4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am an Account Executive with The Underwriters Group specializing in Commercial Insurance. I represent one of the largest Commercial Insurance Brokers in the region with our reach stretching from our home office in Kentucky well into southern Indiana. It is my job to make sure businesses are covered for the unexpected and prepared to grow for the future.

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic and population growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great destinations for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning education and workforce development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs economic development quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique natural assets and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing connections throughout the broader region;
- Encourage collaboration among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility infrastructure systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tamzin Powell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tamzin Powell  
Account Executive

The Underwriters Group, Inc.  
An Assurex Global Partner  
1700 Eastpoint Parkway  
Louisville, KY 40223

Email: [Tamzin@uscky.com](mailto:Tamzin@uscky.com)  
Direct Phone: 502-489-6276

August 26, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150



RE: Support for *Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly A. Halbauer', on a light blue background.

**Kimberly A. Halbauer**

Regional President - Kentucky

Fifth Third Bank | 401 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street Louisville, KY 40202

502.562.5550



**FLOYD COUNTY INDIANA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Pineview Government Center  
2524 Corydon Pike, Suite 204  
New Albany, Indiana 47150

Dear Town Manager Smith,

The Floyd County Commissioners are pleased to offer this letter in support of the Town of Sellersburg's READI Project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority. Indiana's READI program is expected to propel investment in the State's quality of place, quality of life, and quality of opportunity. Our Southern Indiana's residents, businesses, and communities stand to prosper greatly from a successful, inclusive, and strategic READI initiative.

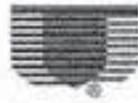
Town Center offers a unique live/work/play quality of place improvement long needed in central Clark County. The Town's investments into the district and subsequent private investment perfectly set the stage for future economic growth that will greatly benefit and improve the long-term success of our region.

We are excited about the Town's planned submission for the regionally impactful Town Center District. The Town's submission to the READI will continue to attract much needed investment to the community while greatly improving utility services for regional benefit that would greatly benefit the unincorporated areas of eastern Floyd County west of the Town of Sellersburg.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Carruthers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Shawn Carruthers, President  
Floyd County Commissioners



**German American Bank**

Banking | Insurance | Investments

711 Main Street | PO Box 810 | Jasper, IN 47547-0810 | P: (800)482-1314

September 6, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: *Support for Our Region/Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

As Market President for German American, and as my role as Board Chair for One Southern Indiana, I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region / Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

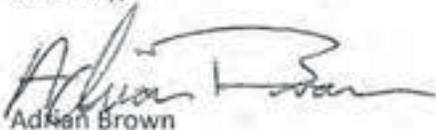
I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Adrien Brown  
German American  
Market President

# RIVER RIDGE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

September 10, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region/Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI Submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

On behalf of the River Ridge Development Authority (RRDA), I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing, and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies, and governments; and

6200 East Highway 62  
Building 2501, Suite #600  
Jeffersonville, IN 47130  
[T] 812-285-8979  
[F] 812-285-8983  
[www.riverridgecc.com](http://www.riverridgecc.com)

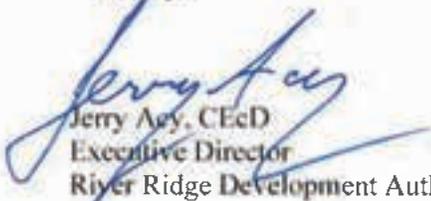
J. Mark Robinson, President  
Norman E. "Ned" Pfau, Vice President  
Philip W. "Phil" McCauley, Secretary/Treasurer  
Treva Hodges, Member  
Edward "Ed" Meyer, Member

- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me, via phone or email at (812) 285-8979 or at [jerry@riverridgecc.com](mailto:jerry@riverridgecc.com), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jerry Aey, CEcD  
Executive Director  
River Ridge Development Authority



Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

My name is Matthew Gibson and I'm the President and CEO of the Kentucky Derby Festival, one of the nations largest civic and community celebrations in the country. Part of the mission of our organization is to create quality of life programming for our area and community, including Southern Indiana.

I am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

It's my understanding that since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I unequivocally support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;
- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Matthew A. Gibson  
President & CEO  
Kentucky Derby Festival, Inc



August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region|Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

The Scott County Visitors Commission and our Board of Directors is pleased to support the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The Our Southern Indiana RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative and the various projects regionally that will greatly benefit southern Indiana as a whole. We are excited about the potential this could/will bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included the development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I along with our board of directors continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents and our guests. The Scott County Visitors Commission recognizes that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this region, with the goal of growing our population.

The Scott County Visitors Commission and our Board of Directors whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the previous Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. This plan supports many great projects, which will undoubtedly spur population, economic growth and tourism throughout the five participating counties. Specifically, the Scott County Visitors Commission and our Board of Directors support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy and could/will directly impact Scott County.

While tourism is often mistakenly overlooked as a catalyst for economic development, I want to share with you a quote from an unknown author who said, "If you build a place where people want to visit, you build a place where people want to live. If you build a place where people want to live, you build a place where people want to work. If you build a place where people want to work, you build a place where business HAS to be. If you build a place where business has to be, you're back to building a place where people want to visit." It all starts with a visit!

The implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. Our organizations support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and all its projects encompassed, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of these strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in this plan will stimulate and continue to support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered today as a reflection of the Scott County Visitors Commission and its Board of Directors full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Chesser  
Executive Director  
Scott County Visitors Commission

cc: Todd Richey, President  
Umang Patel, Vice President  
Jessica Jones, Secretary  
Joe Gibson, Treasurer  
Don Cooper  
David Wells



*Scott County Board of  
Commissioners*

Scott County Courthouse  
1 East McClain Avenue, Suite 130  
Scottsburg, IN 47170

Mike Jones, President  
John C. Lizenby, Vice President  
Randy Julian, Member  
(812) 752-8408  
Fax (812) 752-7914

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

On behalf of the Scott County Board of Commissioners, I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy:

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mike Jones, President  
Scott County Board of Commissioners



## Scott County Partnership

September 1, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Ms. Huber,

Our community is a small community historically rooted in agricultural pursuits. As with all of life, things change, and our community is changing. It is increasingly becoming more of a bedroom community for the Louisville metro area to our south. Sitting on the border of the Knobstone Trail, Scott County is a picturesque area for those who are weary of city-life. More people are beginning to learn of Scott County and the peaceful and serene place in which to live. Additionally, Scott County is well-situated with easy access to I-65 that makes accessing more urban areas either to the north or south an easy commute.

In the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, three canning factories served as economic drivers with active recruitment from eastern Kentucky, so families from Appalachia came to call Scott County home. This migration brought positive and negative attributes to the local culture, including close family ties, a sense of justice, low educational outcomes, low health outcomes and health factors, a history of substance use, roots steeped in generational poverty, high premature death rates and childhood abuse/neglect. Scott County has worked diligently on all these issues for many years. Our high school graduation rates have improved from 55% in the year 2000 to a little over 90% in 2019 (before the pandemic). One of the hallmarks of Scott County life is its willingness to come together to address problems and issues. The Scott County Partnership is a non-profit agency that was formed in 1998 for the express purpose of bringing together representatives from all sectors of the community so that all sectors would have a voice and a seat at the table. Other communities have been envious of our ability to put aside our own agendas in order to work together for the betterment of the community. This is probably the greatest strength of Scott County!

Consequently, when asked to come together to develop our own project/plan for this proposal, we were able to bring together representatives from education, from the health community, social services, faith community, business community. We also had all three of our commissioners participate, representation from the county council, Mayors of both Austin & Scottsburg, and representatives from both city councils. As a group we developed the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex plan and came to consensus. This process reaffirmed the results of our recent Community Needs Assessment and will be part of our Scott County Vision Plan which is a community development plan to be released this fall. Furthermore, as a group we voiced support of the entire Regional Development Plan.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy for our region's plan.

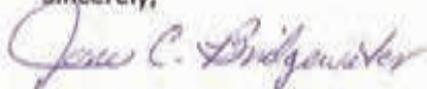
This proposal includes quality facilities at three locations making it easy for Scott County residents to access. It will consist of outdoor facilities for baseball, soccer and softball in Austin; indoor facilities of a multi-purpose building in Scottsburg; and improvements to the YMCA pool with an outdoor spray park. The partners listed in this proposal include Scott County Commissioners, Scott County Council, the City of Scottsburg, the City of Austin, Scott County School District 1 and School District 2, the Scott County Family YMCA, the Scott County Visitors Commission, and the Scott County Community Foundation.

We believe this sports complex will impact Scott County and the entire RDA region through an increase in tourism revenue; increased enrollment in schools through new residents; increase in housing and property values, improved health outcomes; and will attract and retain residents and businesses by improving amenities and quality of life/quality of place in our region.

Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



*Jene C. Bridgewater, M.Div.*  
Executive Director  
Scott County Partnership, Inc.

# SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 1

255 Highway 31 S. P.O. Box 9

AUSTIN, IN 47102

812-794-8750 or FAX: 812-794-8765

## BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

*Ryan Payne*  
PRESIDENT

*Kathy Morris*  
VICE-PRESIDENT

*Darlene Hall*  
SECRETARY

*Ron Atkins*  
MEMBER

*David Deaton*  
MEMBER

## ADMINISTRATION

*Trevor Jones*  
SUPERINTENDENT

*Ryan Herald*  
HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Keith Henderson*  
ASST. HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Darcie Goodin*  
MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Beverly Turner*  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

*Sherry Fugate*  
ASST. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

September 2, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority

Attn: Dana Huber, Chair

c/o 4100 Charlestown Road

New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region|Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

My name is Jami Parks and I am the Business Manager for Scott County School District 1 in Austin, IN.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy:

Scott County School District 1 is excited about the increase in tourism revenue; increased enrollment in schools through new residents; increase in housing and property values; improved health outcomes; and attracting/retaining residents and businesses by improving amenities and

quality of life/quality of place in our region that the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex will bring.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support.

Sincerely,

*Jami Parks*  
*Business Manager, Scott County School District 1*

**SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 1**

**255 Highway 31 S. P.O. Box 9**

**AUSTIN, IN 47102**

**812-794-8750 or FAX: 812-794-8765**

**BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES**

*Ryan Payne*  
**PRESIDENT**

*Kathy Morris*  
**VICE-PRESIDENT**

*Darlene Hall*  
**SECRETARY**

*Ron Adkins*  
**MEMBER**

*David Deaton*  
**MEMBER**

**ADMINISTRATION**

*Trevor Jones*  
**SUPERINTENDENT**

*Ryan Herald*  
**H. S. PRINCIPAL**

*Keith Henderson*  
**A. D. & Dean of Students**

*Darcie Goodin*  
**M. S. PRINCIPAL**

*Beverly Turner*  
**E. S. PRINCIPAL**

August 31, 2021

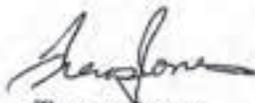
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Ms. Huber,

I, Trevor Jones, superintendent of Scott County School District 1, am writing this letter to offer my full support for the collaborate effort of Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington.

This collaborative project is working to bring a much needed set of sports complexes located at multiple locations throughout Scott County. These sports complexes should add great economic benefits throughout the five counties for many years and decades to come.

Please contact me if you have any questions.



Trevor Jones  
Superintendent



YOUR **PATH** TO A BRIGHTER **FUTURE**  
SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

We are pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

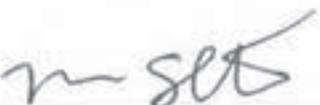
Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and we continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. We recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

We whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, we support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy: The potential for economic growth and prosperity in our region is tremendous but just as important is the need for continued support of our community's physical and mental health improvement efforts. The purpose of Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex most certainly aligns with our community and regional goals.

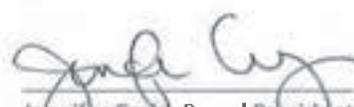
Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. Our support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and we hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

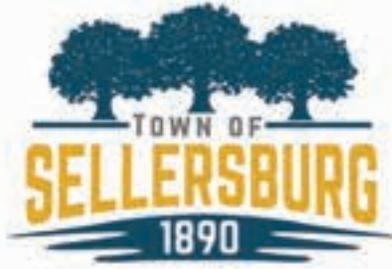
This letter is offered as a reflection of our full support. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Marc Slaton, Superintendent

  
Casey Brewster, Asst Supt & CFO

  
Jennifer Craig, Board President



August 17, 2021

Dr. Travis Haire, Chancellor  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Sellersburg Campus  
8204 Highway 311  
Sellersburg, IN 47172

Dear Dr. Haire,

The Town of Sellersburg is a long-standing supporter of Ivy Tech Community College as we recognize your important role as a critical workforce partner throughout the region. Ivy Tech is dedicated to preparing students to be successful in the workplace by strategically and holistically supporting student needs. This approach is critical to our ability to meet current and future workforce needs to support regional growth.

We are excited that Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House have embarked on a bold but thoughtful regional initiative encompassing affordable housing, education, life and career support services, and a workforce focus dedicated to lifting the prospects of those in need. This 42-unit campus would serve 75-100 residents by providing housing and comprehensive services to assist low-income individuals, with a focus on those who are single parents and young adults formerly in foster care. Through wraparound services, individuals will have the supports needed to pursue degrees, certifications, or apprenticeships in the fields of their choice leading to self-sufficiency through livable wage careers. Further, this location will serve as a resource center for any in the community seeking connection to other available resources.

The Town of Sellersburg fully supports this READI application submission and funding request as this project will continue to generate positive returns for students and their families while also ensuring broad benefits across workforce sectors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Smith", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Charlie Smith  
Town Manager of Sellersburg



# State of Indiana

# Senate

Senator Chris Garten  
State House  
200 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2785  
Senate: (800) 382-9467  
E-mail: [Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov](mailto:Senator.Garten@iga.in.gov)

Committees:  
Appropriations  
Public Policy – Ranking Member  
Environmental Affairs  
Homeland Security and Transportation  
Veterans Affairs and The Military

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region | Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

I am writing today to express my strong support for Scott County's project submission to the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA). The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative.

I wholeheartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout Scott County. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy of the Scott County Vision Plan. This project has been discussed in the community for several years, and I am excited to see the improvements that will be made to the complex and how those improvements will benefit many people in Scott County.

Implementation of the *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. Further, the Youth Sports Complex project proposal has the potential to increase tourism revenue, improve health outcomes, and retain residents and businesses by improving amenities and the quality of life in our region. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I remain available to have a conversation about this process. I can be reached at (317) 232-9490, or [s45@iga.in.gov](mailto:s45@iga.in.gov).

Respectfully,

Chris Garten  
State Senator, District 45

Town of Campbellsburg  
25 W First St  
Campbellsburg, IN 47108  
812-755-4878  
August 25, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application which included the use of READI funds to purchase and construct the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, construct a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway, and begin construction of the South Monon Freedom Trail to the edge of Floyd County. The South Monon Freedom Trail would be the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

Radius Indiana is an eight-county regional economic development organization that includes the majority of the corridor length – the span in Washington, Orange and Lawrence counties. They have supported New Albany's leadership in the CSX corridor initiative and have pledged to be a reliable and engaged partner in the regional trail project. The City of New Albany intends to work with Radius in a collaborative relationship and to turn over the non-Floyd County portion to Southern Indiana Trailways.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saffillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,



David Brown, Council President

Town of Campbellsburg



August 18, 2021

Board of Director  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

We are writing on behalf of New Albany's proposal to use READI funds to facilitate the purchase of the CSX rail corridor, which is intended to become the Monon South Trail, the longest continual hiking/biking trail in the State of Indiana.

This proposed trail is a truly regional project that ties together five counties and multiple municipalities, creating a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. We have the opportunity to capitalize on the uniqueness that is Southern Indiana and provide a way to spur additional recreational activities for our citizens and guests alike.

We strongly encourage you to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase of the CSX corridor. Linking the heritage and beauty of the participating counties will provide a lasting impression far into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kristal Painter'.

Kristal Painter  
Executive Director



505. S Maple Street  
French Lick Indiana 47432



812-936-3388



info@ocedp.com  
ocedp.com/info



facebook.com/ocedp



August 26, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing in support of the City of New Albany's RDA grand application to utilize READI funds to purchase and repurpose the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, Indiana to create the South Monon Freedom Trail as well as a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway. The proposed South Monon Freedom Trail as proposed would establish the longest continuous recreational trail in the state of Indiana.

This project is an opportunity to create key recreational infrastructure that spans five counties and nine cities and towns that will improve the quality of life for those living in these areas and across the state of Indiana. Additionally, I anticipate this project will attract tourism from beyond Indiana in much the same way as the Little Miami Scenic Trail in Ohio. Members of the Southern Indiana Wheelmen travel regularly to ride the Little Miami Scenic Trail in southern Ohio as well as other similar rails to trails conversions across the USA.

The Southern Indiana Wheelmen schedule rides daily throughout the year that originate in locations primarily in Floyd, Clark and Harrison counties. Several of our rides regularly start on locations on the Ohio River Greenway and the proposed South Monon Freedom Trail and the connector trail would provide a welcomed addition for our members and other bicycling clubs such as the Louisville Bicycle Club as well as non-affiliated recreational cyclists, runners, and walkers.

On October 2, 2021, the Southern Indiana Wheelmen will host the 42nd edition of the Harvest Homecoming Bicycle Tour that typically attracts several hundred bicyclists. This year and for the

past several years, the ride has originated in Lanesville, Indiana, and the route has been in Harrison county. The possibility to schedule the ride in the future on the South Monon Freedom Trail would be an option that would be an attractive option.

Rails to trails conversions are attractive to bicyclists, runners and walkers due to the opportunity to exercise with a much lower risk associated than exercising on roads with motorized traffic. Furthermore, rails to trails provide an opportunity for recreational exercise in a much lower stress environment often in more rural and scenic settings. It seems reasonable to project that citizens living in the region would be more likely to exercise with access to the South Monon Freedom Trail and connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway with associated benefits in physical and mental health with lower health care costs.

I strongly encourage the Board to support the City of New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive economic growth and improve the quality of life for the citizens of the five counties in the region.

Sincerely,

David B. Campbell  
President, Southern Indiana Wheelman



## Washington County Community Foundation

FOR GOOD. FOR EVER. FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

P.O. Box 50 • Salem, Indiana 47167

Phone: (812) 883-7334

[www.wccf.biz](http://www.wccf.biz)

August 20, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application which included the use of READI funds to purchase and construct the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, construct a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway, and begin construction of the South Monon Freedom Trail to the edge of Floyd County. The South Monon Freedom Trail would be the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

Radius Indiana is an eight-county regional economic development organization that includes the majority of the corridor length – the span in Washington, Orange and Lawrence counties. They have supported New Albany's leadership in the CSX corridor initiative and have pledged to be a reliable and engaged partner in the regional trail project. The City of New Albany intends to work with Radius in a collaborative relationship and to turn over the non-Floyd County portion to Southern Indiana Trailways.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Sallito, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,

Judy Johnson  
Executive Director  
Washington County Community Foundation

*Leave a legacy. Remember us in your will or beneficiary designation form of your IRA, retirement plan or life insurance policy.*



Non-Profit Community Impact  
Accredited since 2016

August 18, 2021

Board of Director  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

We are writing on behalf of New Albany's proposal to use READI funds to facilitate the purchase of the CSX rail corridor which is intended to become the Monon South Trail, the longest continual hiking/biking trail in the State of Indiana.

This proposed trail is a truly regional project that ties together five counties and multiple municipalities, creating a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and heirs for generations to come.

I strongly encourage you to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase of the CSX corridor. I am writing as a resident of Floyd County who will reap the benefits of a regionally significant quality of life improvement as well as an executive of a consulting engineering firm that sees an opportunity from an economic perspective as well. You will someday look back and know that you helped gift an incredibly positive legacy to the southern Indiana region.

Appreciatively,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. E. Christmas", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Wes Christmas, PE ENV SP



# Town of New Pekin

PO Box 310  
75 S. Mill St.  
Pekin, IN 47165

August 20, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application which included the use of READI funds to purchase and construct the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, construct a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway, and begin construction of the South Monon Freedom Trail to the edge of Floyd County. The South Monon Freedom Trail would be the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

Radius Indiana is an eight-county regional economic development organization that includes the majority of the corridor length – the span in Washington, Orange and Lawrence counties. They have supported New Albany's leadership in the CSX corridor initiative and have pledged to be a reliable and engaged partner in the regional trail project. The City of New Albany intends to work with Radius in a collaborative relationship and to turn over the non-Floyd County portion to Southern Indiana Trailways.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saltillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a

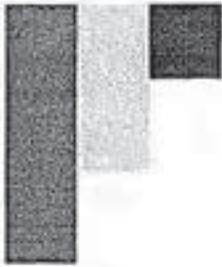
812-733-4033 

[jstone@townofnewpekin.com](mailto:jstone@townofnewpekin.com) 

[www.townofnewpekin.com](http://www.townofnewpekin.com) 

812-967-4122 



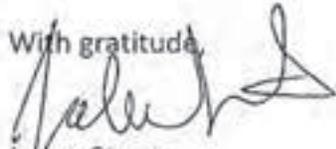


# Town of New Pekin

PO Box 310  
75 S. Mill St.  
Pekin, IN 47165

connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,

  
Jaden Stone  
*Town Manager*

812-733-4033 

[jstone@townofnewpekin.com](mailto:jstone@townofnewpekin.com) 

[www.townofnewpekin.com](http://www.townofnewpekin.com) 

812-967-4122 





Justin Green - Mayor 10

201 E. Market St., Suite 100  
Salem, Indiana 47167-2117

Office: 812-883-4265

Cell: 812-620-3324

[justin.green@cityofsalemin.com](mailto:justin.green@cityofsalemin.com)

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application which included the use of READI funds to purchase and construct the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, construct a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway, and begin construction of the South Monon Freedom Trail to the edge of Floyd County. The South Monon Freedom Trail would be the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

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This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saltillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,



August 27, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application which included the use of READI funds to purchase and construct the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, construct a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway, and begin construction of the South Monon Freedom Trail to the edge of Floyd County. The South Monon Freedom Trail would be the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

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This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saitillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,

Tammi Gibson  
Executive Director

August 27, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

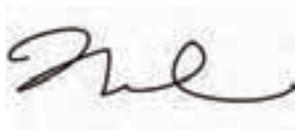
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This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saltillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,



Nic Langford  
Resident, City of New Albany



August 30, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region*/*Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission  
Dear Ms. Huber:

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application which included the use of READI funds to purchase and construct the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, construct a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway, and begin construction of the South Monon Freedom Trail to the edge of Floyd County. The South Monon Freedom Trail would be the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region* | *Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2021. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the South Monon Freedom Trail project which contributes to the overall regional strategy of developing a signature quality of place amenity as well as a shared asset that ties together many communities and facilitates their cooperation and collaboration.

Radius Indiana is an eight-county regional economic development organization that includes the majority of the corridor length – the span in Washington, Orange and Lawrence counties. We have supported New Albany's leadership in the CSX corridor initiative and have pledged to be a reliable and engaged partner in the regional trail project. The City of New Albany intends to work with Radius in a collaborative relationship and to turn over the non-Floyd County portion to Southern Indiana Trailways.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saltillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany). This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad.

I strongly encourage the Board to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Quyle", is written over the typed name and title.

Jeff Quyle, President  
Radius Indiana

August 29, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing about New Albany's proposal to use READI funds to help the purchase of the CSX rail corridor which is intended to be designated the Monon South Trail, making it the longest hiking/Biking trail in the State of Indiana.

This proposed trail is a regional project that encompasses five counties and multiple cities, strengthening our region known for tourism and elevate our quality of life that will be an asset for our communities for generations in the future.

I encourage you to support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase of the CSX corridor. In the future you will look back and be proud of helping gift a positive legacy for the southern Indiana region.

Appreciatively,

Larry "Bamm" Caudell  
Mitchell City Council, President.



## FLOYD COUNTY INDIANA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Pineview Government Center  
2524 Corydon Pike, Suite 204  
New Albany, Indiana 47150

August 30, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region|Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

I am writing on behalf of the City of New Albany's RDA grant application to utilize READI funds to purchase and repurpose the CSX rail corridor from New Albany to Bedford, Indiana to create the South Monon Freedom Trail as well as construct the portion of the trail through Floyd County and a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway. The proposed South Monon Freedom Trail would establish the longest continuous recreation trail in the State of Indiana.

To begin construction of the regional trail northward, the City of New Albany has requested an additional \$3+ million to be included by the RDA in its READI Grant application. Based upon construction estimates from the University of North Carolina, Highway Research Center in 2013, this additional \$3 million will complete trail construction from the City of New Albany to the Floyd County line (approx. 3.384 miles), at which point the next phase of construction would begin in Clark County.

The City of New Albany is in negotiations with CSX to purchase the entire 68-mile railway. If the RDA provides the financial resources for acquisition of the CSX railway, no additional right-of-way will be needed for this phase of the project. It is important to note that if purchase negotiations were to fail and no agreement reached, the abandonment of the railway would make trail development nearly impossible on this corridor because the right-of way would revert to current property owners. In other words; trail development currently is dealing with one owner (CSX) as opposed to 68-miles of adjacent property owners.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop a new regional, 68-mile-long trail stretching through five Indiana counties (Clark, Floyd, Lawrence, Orange, and Washington), and connecting nine Indiana towns and cities (Bedford, Mitchell, Saultillo, Campbellsburg, Salem, New Pekin, Borden, Orleans, and New Albany) creates a signature tourism and quality of place asset that will deliver value to our communities, citizens, and future generations. This opportunity will not only bring a new amenity to the region, but will reimagine the former New Albany – Salem railroad while paying homage to its significance as part of the Underground Railroad. I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support New Albany's request for financial assistance for the purchase and construction of the CSX corridor and construction of a connector trail to the Ohio River Greenway and of the South Monon Freedom Trail from New Albany to the edge of Floyd County. This regional project contributes to the overall strategy and would drive growth and improve quality of life for the Southern Indiana region and propel the region forward for decades.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Carruthers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Shawn Carruthers, President  
Floyd County Commissioners



**INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
SOUTHEAST**

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

February 4, 2019

Next Level Trails Grant Program  
c/o Mayor Jeff Gahan  
City of New Albany  
311 Hauss Square #316  
New Albany, IN 47150

**Re: Letter of Support for the City of New Albany's Next Level Trails Grant**

To: Next Level Trails Grant Program

Indiana University Southeast ("IUS") enthusiastically and wholeheartedly endorses the City of New Albany's application for a Next Level Trails grant to support the development of a regional trail spanning over 60 miles through five Indiana counties. The importance of this trail to the five-county region cannot be overstated. In a stressful, fast-paced world, our citizens need more recreational opportunities for renewal and rejuvenation. Research has confirmed that people are happier and healthier when they regularly spend time in natural environments (Dolesh, 2013). This particular "rail-to-trail" conversion provides the perfect opportunity to improve the quality of life and place in the five-county region!

IUS was recently approved for an Indiana University Bicentennial grant to develop a trail system in the northern 40 acres of campus. Our trail is positioned adjacent to the abandoned railroad tracks. If the City's Next Level Trail grant is approved, we would hope to connect our trail to the new five-county regional trail, which will benefit both trail systems. Our Bicentennial Trail will include markers and stations that celebrate IUS's rich history making it a destination for faculty, staff, students, and community members. Additionally, the Bicentennial Trail will increase faculty, staff, and student engagement by creating a living learning lab to explore recreation, wellness, sustainability, conservation, and campus history.

Stephen Mather, the first director of the National Park Service, understood the role that public lands play in promoting health and wellness. In 1920, he provided the following assessment in his annual report to the Secretary of the Interior:

"The parks will have a constantly enlarging revivifying influence on our national life for which there is no other public agency. They are our antidote for national restlessness. They are national character and health builders. They are giving a new impetus to sane living in this country" (Mather, 1920, p. 6).

As Mather envisioned, the new five-county regional trail will provide a critical recreational opportunity for the communities it will serve. The trail will offer a place of refuge from the everyday stresses and pressures endured by our citizenry. To use Mather's wording, the

proposed trail will become a "character and health builder" for the five-county region and its large number of communities.

The importance of this trail is amplified with the current plans to create a 400-acre public park along the north shore of the Ohio River. The work being done by the River Heritage Conservancy to create this world class park is aligned with a regional transformation that has seen two new bridges over the Ohio River, the conversion of the Big Four railroad truss bridge to a pedestrian bridge, and the continued development of the Ohio River Greenway. The City's proposed five-county regional trail will provide a new pathway of discovery to a region that embraces the spirit of the Lewis and Clark expedition, rooted in Clarksville, Indiana.

Finally, before the end of the 2020 decade, we will see the full effects the regional transformation that is presently underway. It is highly likely that all of the aforementioned public lands and projects will be interconnected in some way or fashion. With such a strong network of high quality recreational opportunities, our region will become a destination for visitors from surrounding states, or perhaps even other parts of the country or world. The combined positive impact on the Hoosier economy will be undeniable!

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and the City's Next Level Trail grant application.

Sincerely,



Dana C. Wavle  
Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

#### References

Dolesh, R. (2013). The "soft fascination" of nature. *Parks & Recreation, April 2013*, 34-35.

Mather, S. (1920). *Report of the Director of the National Park Service to the Secretary of the Interior*. Washington: Government Printing Office.

**Voting Members**

**Clarksville:** Paul Fetter -Town Council President, Jim McCoskey, Tony Munich  
**Jeffersonville:** Mayor Mike Moore, Philip Hendershot – Chair, Chris Fox -Treasurer  
**New Albany:** Mayor Jeff Gahan, Christopher Gardner – Vice-Chair, Courtney Lewis

**Non-Voting Members**

**SoIN Tourism:** Jim Epperson      **One Southern Indiana:** Wendy Dant Chesser  
**Indiana DNR:** Lucas Green      **Indiana DOT:** Jim Ude

February 13, 2019

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
 Division of Outdoor Recreation  
 Grants Committee

**Subject:** Support for Next Level Trails Grant Application  
 Multi-County Rail Trail – New Albany to Bedford

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ohio River Greenway Development Commission (Commission) expresses our support for the above-referenced grant application, which is being prepared by the City of New Albany in conjunction with partners from Floyd, Clark, Washington, Orange and Lawrence Counties. This application involves the conversion of an approximate 69-mile abandoned rail line between New Albany and Bedford into a regional trail.

The Commission, together with its member communities and valued partners in state and Federal government have been working for many years on the enhancement of our riverfronts, through the implementation of the 7.5-mile Ohio River Greenway Project, a connective trail between three communities; New Albany, Clarksville, and Jeffersonville.

As the Greenway project nears completion, the Commission is supportive of efforts to develop connective trails that would intersect the Greenway and/or provide longer and safer bicycling opportunities through our three communities. The application above led by the City of New Albany is a great example of such a trail, and an opportunity to enhance the connectivity of several communities.

Sincerely,

Philip T. Hendershot, Chair



## City of Bedford

Office of the Mayor

Shauna M. Girgis

February 12, 2019

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
Next Level Trails Review Committee  
402 W. Washington St. W271  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Committee Members,

As the Mayor of the City of Bedford, I greatly appreciate the opportunity the State of Indiana has provided through the Next Level Trails program to assist in the development of regionally significant trails. Citizens from the City of Bedford identified trail development as a top priority in our comprehensive plan. As a result, Bedford constructed a connector trail with INDOT funding from downtown to a rail-trail that connects Bedford to Williams with the capacity to reach Crane, Indiana. This rail-trail was constructed in collaboration with the Indiana Trail Fund and is utilized regularly by citizens and visitors alike. Given the enthusiasm for trails in my community, I am very excited about the opportunity to expand trail connectivity through the proposed conversion of a CSX rail corridor into a multi-jurisdictional trail that would connect nine municipalities in five counties in southern Indiana. This corridor that spans from New Albany to Bedford is a stellar example of the type of project that Next Level Trails can make a reality by developing a 62.3 mile trail but it is imperative that we act now.

The unused CSX corridor passes by the courthouse square in downtown Bedford, accordingly, we know that commerce on Main Street, tourism, and overall quality of place within our community would be greatly improved if this regional trail were developed. In addition, this multi-jurisdictional trail would replace the neglected rail line that has created blight in the community, as well as improve the quality of life for area residents. For these reasons, Bedford supports and is an active proponent for the New Albany application for funding through the Next Level Trails program that would be used for the acquisition of the identified CSX rail corridor.

If funded, the City of Bedford will be a reliable and engaged partner in this regional rails-to-trails project and will seek additional funding to help with the acquisition of the identified rail corridor within our boundaries. In addition, we will work collaboratively with Radius Indiana, which is developing a regional tourism strategy, and the Regional Impact Fund to secure grant matching funds for this project. The City of Bedford will also use our demonstrated expertise to assist with construction, as well as help maintain the trail within our jurisdiction once complete.

I look forward to learning about funding through the Next Level Trails program for this ambitious regional endeavor. I am confident that this project will benefit the citizens and communities of Indiana for generations to come. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 812-279-6555 or via email at [sgirgis@bedford.in.us](mailto:sgirgis@bedford.in.us).

Thank you for your consideration and assistance regarding this important matter. It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Shauna M. Girgis  
Mayor, City of Bedford



## City of New Albany, Indiana

Michael Hall  
City Operations

DATE: October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
 TO: John Rosenbarger  
 FROM: Michael Hall, City Operations  
 MEMO: Rails to Trails Video Analytics

We posted a video of Mayor Gahan detailing the Rails to Trails proposal onto our social media channels in October of 2018. The response that we received from the public was overwhelmingly positive, and so I thought I would compile them for you.

According to our social media analytics, the video reached 46,860 people (as of October 4, 2018 at 10:30am), 2,350 people engaged with the post, meaning they liked, commented, or shared in some way. The video had an immensely positive reaction rate – 97% of the people who engaged with the post engaged in a positive manner.

Additionally, here are some of the positive comments to showcase how Southern Indiana residents are excited about this project:

**“Wonderful news. We came from Bloomington and love and miss the B-line trail there.”**

“This is why I love living in Southern Indiana, we re-use and re purpose so many things and this will be an awesome addition.”

**“Fantastic idea! I wish Kentucky leaders would follow the example set by so many states in converting old train beds to trails. This is a win for local individuals and local economic development.”**

“As an avid hiker, I’m truly excited for this potential opportunity.”

**“Rails to trails are wonderful...one great example ..the MONON TRAIL IN INDIANAPOLIS”**

“I would love to mountain bike it!”

**“What a great program and opportunity. I’m impressed by the foresight shown by the parties involved.”**

“I love this project, it has my support!”

“We have one that goes from DC through VA, I used it all the time! So great!”

###



February 14, 2019

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
 Next Level Trails Review committee  
 402 W. Washington St.  
 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Indiana Department of Natural Resources,

Asa county commissioner of Lawrence County, I greatly appreciate the investment opportunity the State of Indiana has provided through the development of its innovative new grant program, Next Level Trails, to assist in the development of regionally significant trails.

One particular potential regional trail that fits the new program to a tee is the proposed conversion of a CSX rail corridor into a multi-jurisdictional trail that can connect nine municipalities in five counties in southern Indiana. This New Albany-to-Bedford corridor sits as a poster child of the type of project that Next Level Trails can catalyze. We recognize this CSX RR corridor as an unprecedented opportunity to acquire and subsequently build a 60+ mile trail through a beautiful, but largely undiscovered part of Indiana. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure a path for a regional trail...if we don't act now, this opportunity is likely lost forever.

Because Lawrence County sits astride the CSX corridor, we are intimately familiar with the enhancement to our quality of place that a new regional trail will create if it replaces the derelict and neglected rail line that is a current blight upon our community. For this reason, we are strong supporters of the New Albany application for grant funds that can be used for the acquisition of the CSX corridor.

We pledge that we will be a reliable and engaged partner in the rails-to-trails project. Lawrence County will look for sources of financing to help with the acquisition of the more than seven miles of corridor within our boundaries. We will work with Radius Indiana and the Regional Impact Fund to help locate funding as a match, knowing that Radius values outdoor recreation as an important part of the regional tourism strategy that is being developed.

We will use our transportation construction expertise to assist in the efficient and cost-effective construction of the trail within Lawrence County, provided we find the finances needed for the construction. And we will pledge to maintain the trail once construction is complete within our jurisdiction. We recognize that acquisition and construction of the trail may be a lengthy process, and we will prioritize our efforts to most cost-effectively remove the blighted portions of the rail within Lawrence County as a highest priority, acknowledging that the overall trail in Lawrence County is likely to be a multi-year project for us.

We look forward to hearing about the assistance that the Next Level Trails program can provide to New Albany, Lawrence County, and all the partners who will be a part of this ambitious project. It is a project that will be a legacy of vision and community value that will last and assist many generations in the future.

Appreciatively,

*Gene McCracken*  
 Gene McCracken *by tte*



February 12, 2019

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
402 W. Washington St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Indiana Department of Natural Resources,

As a resident of Indiana, I greatly appreciate the investment opportunity the State of Indiana has provided through the development of its innovative new grant program, Next Level Trails, to assist in the development of regionally significant trails.

One particular potential regional trail that fits the new program to a tee is the proposed conversion of a CSX rail corridor into a multi-jurisdictional trail that can connect nine municipalities in five counties in southern Indiana. This New Albany-to-Bedford corridor sits as a poster child of the type of project that Next Level Trails can catalyze. We recognize this CSX RR corridor as an unprecedented opportunity to acquire and subsequently build a 60+ mile trail through a beautiful, but largely undiscovered part of Indiana. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure a path for a regional trail.

Radius Indiana is an eight-county regional economic development organization that includes the majority of the corridor length – the span in Washington, Orange, and Lawrence counties. One of the key components we see needed for economic development success in our region is a combination of improving quality of place investment, as well as an expanding number of outdoor recreation facilities that can be used by visitors and residents alike.

For these reasons, we have supported New Albany's leadership in the CSX corridor initiative. We pledge that we will be a reliable and engaged partner in the rails-to-trails project. We will work to provide and locate funding as a match. Our expectation is that we will work with our local communities to contribute up to \$300,000 from our Regional Impact Fund to bolster their ability to deliver a portion of the local match needed for this grant; the RIF leaders recognize the value of this project and have the financial resources available to provide the funds in short order.

We look forward to hearing about the assistance that the Next Level Trails program can provide to New Albany and all the partners who will be a part of this ambitious project. It is a project that will be a legacy of vision and community value that will last and assist many generations in the future.

Appreciatively,

Jeff Quyle, President/CEO  
Radius Indiana



## INDIANA UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR RURAL ENGAGEMENT

February 14, 2019

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
402 West Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Indiana Department of Natural Resources,

On behalf of the Center for Rural Engagement at Indiana University, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to provide this letter of support for the proposed conversion of the CSX rail corridor into a multi-jurisdictional trail. We commend the State of Indiana for its investment in the Next Level Trails program, and feel that this project would be an excellent candidate for funding under the program.

The goal of the Center for Rural Engagement is to improve the lives and opportunities of Hoosiers by working with partners to discover and deploy evidence-based, data-informed and scalable solutions to common challenges facing rural communities. In pursuit of this goal, we work closely with communities to build upon their existing assets by connecting IU resources.

The CSX corridor sits adjacent to and within the region that we primarily serve – the eleven counties of the Indiana Uplands region. One of the opportunities that has been most frequently identified by partners in the Uplands region is the enhancement of our regional recreational amenities. Many leaders believe that the Uplands has a unique opportunity to leverage its natural beauty, significant park and forest facilities, and charming small towns to become a leading Midwest destination for recreation-based tourism.

Based on this feedback from partners, in 2018 the Center for Rural Engagement worked with the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands at IU to launch a study of the recreational assets and opportunities within the Indiana Uplands region. The Eppley Institute conducted focus groups in each of the eleven counties to hear from residents and recreation and tourism leaders about their priorities. Although the study has not yet been released to the public, the focus groups were completed in December and the major findings have been identified. The following findings directly relate to, and make the case for, funding the conversion of the CSX line into a trail:

- When asked about which recreational facilities were used the most, nine of the eleven counties identified trails.



## INDIANA UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR RURAL ENGAGEMENT

- Trails were one of the most frequently mentioned amenities when focus group attendees were asked what types of facilities they'd like to see enhanced in their community.
- Strong support for trails was found in at least ten of the eleven counties.
- A significant number of recreational managers within the eleven counties identified a noticeable increase in trail use within their facilities in recent years, findings which several of them noted had been supported by data from FitBit users.
- A number of focus group attendees identified longer, multi-county trails as an important enhancement that would drive regional tourism.
- The public health impacts of trails were identified as a reason for needing more trails in seven of eleven counties.

This New Albany-to-Bedford corridor is an ideal candidate for Next Level Trails funding, because of its potential impacts on a beautiful area that is in need of economic and public health investment. It will connect rural communities, promote an enhanced sense of regionalism, provide the region with another significant tourism and quality of place asset, and encourage healthier lifestyles.

Enhancing recreational facilities is an objective that touches all three of the primary focus areas of the Center for Rural Engagement – resilience, quality of place, and public health. We pledge our support to the partners that are participating in this grant application and intend to play a significant role in moving this initiative forward.

Successfully converting the CSX line into a trail will leave a legacy that will benefit many generations of future southern Indiana residents. We would appreciate the support of the State of Indiana on this initiative.

Appreciatively,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Thomson".

Kerry Thomson, Executive Director  
Indiana University Center for Rural Engagement

Dear Indiana Department of Natural Resources,

As Mayor, I greatly appreciate the investment opportunity the State of Indiana has provided through the development of its innovative new grant program, Next Level Trails, to assist in the development of regionally significant trails.

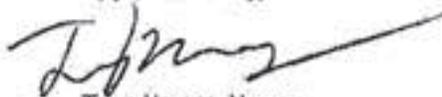
One particular potential regional trail that fits the new program to a tee is the proposed conversion of a CSX rail corridor into a multi-jurisdictional trail that can connect nine municipalities in five counties in southern Indiana. This New Albany-to-Lawrence County corridor sits as a poster child of the type of project that Next Level Trails can catalyze. We recognize this CSX RR corridor as an unprecedented opportunity to acquire and subsequently build a 62.3 mile trail through a beautiful, but largely undiscovered part of Indiana. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure a path for a regional trail...if we don't act now, this opportunity is likely lost forever.

Because the city of Salem sits astride the unused CSX corridor, we are intimately familiar with the great enhancement to our quality of place that a new regional trail will create if it replaces the derelict and neglected rail line that is a current blight upon our community. For this reason, we are strong supporters of the New Albany application for grant funds that can be used for the acquisition of the CSX corridor.

We pledge that we will make every effort to be a reliable and engaged partner in the rails-to-trails project. Salem will look for sources of financing to help with the acquisition of the approximately three miles of corridor within our boundaries. We will work with Radius Indiana and the Regional Impact Fund to help locate funding as a match, knowing that Radius values outdoor recreation as an important part of the regional tourism strategy that is being developed.

We look forward to hearing about the assistance that the Next Level Trails program can provide to New Albany, Salem, Washington County, and all the partners who will be a part of this ambitious project. It is a project that will be a legacy of vision and community value that will last and assist many generations in the future.

Appreciatively,



Troy Merry, Mayor  
City of Salem

Dear Indiana Department of Natural Resources,

As City Council President, I greatly appreciate the investment opportunity the State of Indiana has provided through the development of its innovative new grant program, Next Level Trails, to assist in the development of regionally significant trails.

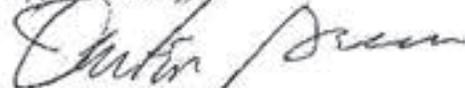
One particular potential regional trail that fits the new program to a tee is the proposed conversion of a CSX rail corridor into a multi-jurisdictional trail that can connect nine municipalities in five counties in southern Indiana. This New Albany-to-Lawrence County corridor sits as a poster child of the type of project that Next Level Trails can catalyze. We recognize this CSX RR corridor as an unprecedented opportunity to acquire and subsequently build a 62.3 mile trail through a beautiful, but largely undiscovered part of Indiana. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure a path for a regional trail...if we don't act now, this opportunity is likely lost forever.

Because the city of Salem sits astride the unused CSX corridor, we are intimately familiar with the great enhancement to our quality of place that a new regional trail will create if it replaces the derelict and neglected rail line that is a current blight upon our community. For this reason, we are strong supporters of the New Albany application for grant funds that can be used for the acquisition of the CSX corridor.

We pledge that we will make every effort to be a reliable and engaged partner in the rails-to-trails project. Salem will look for sources of financing to help with the acquisition of the approximately three miles of corridor within our boundaries. We will work with Radius Indiana and the Regional Impact Fund to help locate funding as a match, knowing that Radius values outdoor recreation as an important part of the regional tourism strategy that is being developed.

We look forward to hearing about the assistance that the Next Level Trails program can provide to New Albany, Salem, Washington County, and all the partners who will be a part of this ambitious project. It is a project that will be a legacy of vision and community value that will last and assist many generations in the future.

Appreciatively,



Justin Green  
City of Salem

August 22, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

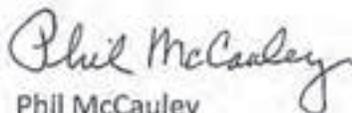
Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to support Align Southern Indiana, Inc.'s Regional Trails Comprehensive Master Plan grant application.

Align Southern Indiana has undertaken the initiative to enhance the quality of living in five Southern Indiana Counties by taking the initiative to map, market and increase awareness of the 65 trails in five counties of Southern Indiana. This effort to coordinate, map and make the public aware of the many excellent trails and parks will have many benefits to our area including not only making Southern Indiana a more appealing place to live and visit, promote quality of life and opportunities to appreciate the beauty of the area, but it also enhances physical and mental health that inevitably goes with the time spent on these beautiful trails.

Align Southern Indiana is supported with highly competent leadership and accomplishes substantial and significant good with every dollar entrusted to it. It is supported by many dedicated and skilled volunteers who donate their time and money for the betterment of the Southern Indiana community. We appreciate your efforts in this process and ask you to consider the Regional Trails Comprehensive Plan of Align Southern Indiana as worthy of your support. We are confident that the dollars invested in this effort will be multiplied many times over with the efforts of the many volunteers and leadership.

Thank you very much.



Phil McCauley  
Retired CPA

August 27, 2021

Dr. Travis Haire, Chancellor  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Sellersburg Campus  
8204 Highway 311  
Sellersburg, IN 47172

Dear Dr. Haire,

The Town of Clarksville is a long-standing supporter of Ivy Tech Community College as we recognize your important role as a critical workforce partner throughout the region. Ivy Tech is dedicated to preparing students to be successful in the workplace by strategically and holistically supporting student needs. This approach is critical to our ability to meet current and future workforce needs to support regional growth.

We are excited that Ivy Tech and Family Scholar House have embarked on a bold but thoughtful regional initiative encompassing affordable housing, education, life and career support services, and a workforce focus dedicated to lifting the prospects of those in need. This 42-unit campus would serve 75-100 residents by providing housing and comprehensive services to assist low-income individuals, with a focus on those who are single parents and young adults formerly in foster care.

Through wraparound services, individuals will have the supports needed to pursue degrees, certifications, or apprenticeships in the fields of their choice leading to self-sufficiency through livable wage careers. Further, this location will serve as a resource center for any in the community seeking connection to other available resources.

The Town of Clarksville fully supports this READI application submission and funding request as this project will continue to generate positive returns for students and their families while also ensuring broad benefits across workforce sectors.

Sincerely,



Kevin Baity  
Town Manager



September 9, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for *Our Region|Our Plan* – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber:

On behalf of my region I, as CEO of The New Washington State Bank, am pleased to support our northern neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the Indiana counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI Initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA!

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud Southern Indiana's regional efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I whole-heartedly support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the *Our Region | Our Plan* strategy approved by the IEDC in December, 2019. It supports many great projects which will spur economic growth throughout the five counties.

I support the RDA's dedication to addressing the region's priorities included in the overall strategy:

- Creating and nurturing great **destinations** for present and future residents and visitors;
- Aligning **education and workforce** development opportunities to strengthen job growth and fill job opportunities;
- Pursuing catalytic development that spurs **economic development** quality jobs, housing and public spaces in the region;
- Promote the preservation and celebration of the region's unique **natural assets** and environmentally sensitive areas;
- Enhancing **connections** throughout the broader region;



- Encourage **collaboration** among organizations, agencies and governments; and
- Ensuring the region's utility **infrastructure** systems provide high-quality, efficient services.

Implementation of *Our Region | Our Plan* will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI Initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years – and decades – to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Carroll", is written over the typed name.

Jessica Carroll  
Chief Executive Officer



August 26, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Washington County Economic Growth Partnership, with our Board of Directors', in support of the Our Southern Indiana RDA's Regional Plan application to the IEDC for READI funding. The counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott and Washington are areas that include many worthy projects that will boost the quality of life and talent attraction in Southern Indiana. While each county has its own personality and goal in this process, all have worked well together to attempt to reach the ultimate purpose of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Plan.

Washington County is fortunate to be a part of a strong region that values quality of life and building economic stability. Each project that is presented to the IEDC has been prepared with much attention and collaboration within counties and region. The opportunity to work with other organization within Washington County, while hearing the feedback from other counties, has made our Region stronger and more collaborative.

The Washington County Economic Growth Partnership, along with our Board of Directors, thank the Our Southern Indiana RDA's board of directors for all of the time and interest put into this plan. We also thank the supporting organizations that assisted in bringing the plan to its final proposal.

We encourage the support of the IEDC in choosing the Our Southern Indiana RDA as a recipient of the full amount possible in funding from the READI program. These projects would drive growth in our Region, while contributing to Indiana's overall success as the place to live, work and play.

With sincere gratitude and support of the Board of Directors listed below,

Tammi Gibson  
Executive Director

**SALEM FAMILY DENTAL**  
**Tricia K Wheeler, DMD**  
100 N Harrison St  
Salem, Indiana 47167

To Whom it May Concern,

Determination of an airport's runway length, according to the FAA, is made by the use of the airport by critical aircraft. Critical aircraft is the most demanding aircraft that uses the runway.

As a business owner and proud citizen of Salem, Washington County, IN, I feel it would be beneficial to have a 5000' runway at our Salem Airport.

This is to increase the future critical aircraft that can benefit and use the Salem Airport. This would also benefit the economy of the community by allowing larger critical aircraft to bring more passengers into our city.

A 3000' runway has limitations to smaller single engine aircraft (Category 1 aircraft) that only comfortably allow 1-4 passengers.

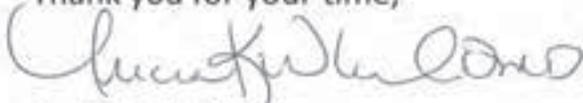
A 5000' runway can accommodate larger aircraft including but not limited to private jets (4-5 passengers) and super midsize business aircraft that can carry 8-12 souls on board.

Allowing more, larger aircraft could lead to bringing more businesses, more interest, more people and more money to our beautiful town. More people coming into Salem would mean more money spent at our Speedway, our stores, our restaurants, our hotels, etc. It would also provide an opportunity for future businesses including a shuttle service to and from the airport to community businesses. Allowing more aircraft would also benefit the airport by receiving fees for rental, storage and thus would provide the airport a larger budget to hire mechanics, security, etc to secure and maintain the aircraft. Financially the extension would pay for itself.

According to an article in the Island Packet, the FAA agreed that "a runway less than 5000' is not worth the trouble." (Oct 2010 article, The Island Packet).

With that being said, I fully support a 5000' runway.

Thank you for your time,



Dr. Tricia Wheeler  
(also a student pilot)



August 26, 2021

Dana Huber, Board Chair  
Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear OurSoIN RDA Board,

I am writing as a show of support for the development of an innovative Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College in collaboration with Ivy Tech Madison. Access to veterinary school in Indiana is extremely competitive and there are very limited in-state options currently. The offering of the first two years of a four-year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at a liberal arts college would be very advantageous for many seeking this degree. Many Indiana companies, ours included, would be especially interested in graduates of the Associate of Science program in Veterinary Nursing.

Whiteshire Hamroc (WH) has historically been a swine seedstock operation that raises purebred sows on two farm sites located in northeastern Indiana. In early 2019, WH entered an agreement which put them in business with The Maschhoffs (TML), which is the fourth largest hog production company in North America. Under this arrangement, WH raises animals for Acuity Genetics. These animals within Whiteshire's branch of the TML system produce breeding stock for other genetic and commercial farms, boar studs, pork for consumers, and value-added animals to other markets (medical, research, branded pork chains, etc.). From this purebred base, WH also exports pigs to other countries in North and South America and all over Asia.

As you can see, WH isn't just any old pig farm. We always have a need for STEM-educated, detail-oriented individuals who understand what it takes to provide exceptional care to our animals. The job market in NE IN is a very competitive market with a lot of demands from the areas of manufacturing and health care. TML and Acuity Genetics also have two similar farm sites located in southern Indiana near North Vernon and Tell City. I believe the program being considered for development at Hanover College would provide all these highly science driven farms an opportunity to access candidates specifically interested in working with animals. The liberal arts education and technical training would prepare them well to become immediately impactful members of our care teams from day one.

We often spend the first six months of a new hire's time on-the-job training them in the very basics of animal care, animal behavior, basic biology, nutrition, reproduction, handling, medical care, etc. It would be our anticipation that the graduates of the Associates program would already have a good grasp of these basics and would quickly pick up the more specific needs of running the genetic production base of an international agribusiness. I believe demand for these graduates would extend to many other livestock farms and companies who have a lot of the same hiring needs and challenges as we do.

As a member of Governor Holcomb's Workforce Cabinet, I have been very excited to see a seemingly renewed interest in collaboration among stakeholders at every level of the workforce pathway. Education, career preparation and advancement are all seeking to find new solutions to old and new



challenges. My daughter recently graduated from Huntington University with one of the first completed 4-year degrees in their Agriculture department. Purdue University was very helpful in the development and implementation of what they could have viewed as a competing program. However, Huntington University had something unique to offer students who want to pursue a degree and career in agriculture combined with a Christian, liberal arts education offered in a small campus setting. I believe the collaboration effort being proposed for the Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College will offer another unique opportunity for a diverse student body to access in-demand skills and education in Veterinary Science. The education and skills training in Veterinary Science can easily cross into many other industries such as human medicine, research, data management, any other agriculture disciplines, medical device fields, etc.

A main priority of the Workforce Cabinet since its inception in 2018 has been for more Hoosiers to attain post-secondary education and training. We are gaining on this goal, but there is still much to be done. One alarming statistic shared at last week's GWC meeting was the college go rate has decreased by 6% over the last 5 years. We must give Hoosier high school graduates and adult learners more options to plug into meaningful, affordable post-secondary options. I believe this Veterinary Teaching Center will help fulfill this goal for many around our state as well as attract students from other parts of the country. The degrees being offered should attract students from rural, urban, and suburban neighborhoods. Whereas typical post-secondary agriculture focused education programs struggle to attract students who haven't been raised on a farm, I believe this Center at Hanover College will attract a diverse group of students seeking to make a difference in the sustainability of the global food chain via the education and careers they choose.

Fighting talent exit, or the brain drain, is another important goal of the Cabinet to grow Indiana's economy in a meaningful way. Internships are one of the ways we can work to retain talent in Indiana. Internships have become a very important part of student education as a means of gaining career relevant work experience, building networks and assess next steps along the career pathway. I believe the students following the degree programs being considered at the Veterinary Teaching Center would make excellent intern candidates for many companies in Indiana. Experience has shown us that students who intern with a company are more likely to come work with that company, or one in the nearby area, because they have already built relationships with people in that company and community.

I would conclude by thanking you for your time in consideration of this letter of support for the proposed innovative Veterinary Teaching Center at Hanover College in collaboration with Ivy Tech Madison.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schroeder, BS- Purdue University School of Agriculture  
President, Whiteshire Hamroc LLC  
Member, Governor Holcomb's Workforce Cabinet



# Washington County Community Foundation

FOR GOOD. FOR EVER. FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

P.O. Box 50 • Salem, Indiana 47167

Phone: (812) 883-7334

[www.wccf.biz](http://www.wccf.biz)

August 25, 2021

Board of Directors  
Our Southern Indiana RDA  
4100 Charlestown Rd.  
New Albany, IN 47150

Dear Board of Directors,

I am writing this letter to fully support the Wisdom Workshop, a collaborative effort between the City of Salem, Washington County Commissioners, Senior Citizens Center, Purdue Extension-Washington County, IU Center for Rural Engagement, and Washington County Community Foundation to create, share, and preserve wisdom and skills across generations.

Mental health issues continue to plague rural communities and pose a serious health concern. The Wisdom Workshop will help alleviate feelings of loneliness and isolation experienced by rural seniors. By offering meaningful ways to work on individual and group projects for the community, and through both teaching and learning skills and traditional crafts, the Wisdom Workshop will become a stable, inviting and vibrant hub for seniors from all areas across Washington County.

Teaching skills to youth will create a positive environment to influence their development, helping them to become caring, responsible, and productive adults that learn resilience and allow more opportunities for them to thrive. This will impact future workforce and economic development by retaining current and future generations of youth to build and sustain our talent pipeline.

The concept of a Wisdom Workshop is relatively new in the United States. It is based off of successful models in the UK and Australia. Thus, the Wisdom Workshop in Washington County can serve as a model for the region and the state.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this very important project that will be beneficial to so many lives in our community.

Sincerely,

Judy Johnson  
Executive Director

*Leave a legacy. Remember us in your will or beneficiary designation form of your IRA, retirement plan or life insurance policy.*



Community Accredited Foundation  
Accredited since 2001



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

August 31, 2021

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority  
Attn: Dana Huber, Chair  
c/o 4100 Charlestown Road  
New Albany, IN 47150

RE: Support for Our Region | Our Plan – Regional Development Plan and READI submission

Dear Ms. Huber,

My name is Tony Stidham and I am the Interim CEO and Childcare Director of the Scott County Family YMCA. The SCFY provides programs to improve physical, social, and emotional health to the people living in and around Scott County. My role is to develop and implement programs that will improve youth development (summer camps, sports, seasonal activities), improve health outcomes (group exercise classes, nutrition and health classes, individual training programs), and to be a socially responsible facility and offer blood drives, community activities and promote healthy lifestyles in our county and surrounding counties.

I am pleased to support our neighbors and the collaborative effort of the Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), whose members include the counties of Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington. The RDA, administered by One Southern Indiana, is leading the region in its quest to obtain up to \$50 million from the READI initiative. We are excited about the potential this could bring to the entire Louisville MSA.

Since 2017, community support for the RDA has included development of the Regional Economic Development Strategy, and I continue to applaud our region's efforts to enhance the quality of place for area residents. I recognize that Southern Indiana must implement these regional strategies to maximize its value and impact to the 1.269 million residents in this great region, with the goal of growing our population.

I am excited and completely support the entire Regional Development Plan which is an update to the Our Region | Our Plan strategy approved by the IEDC in December 2019. It supports many great projects, which will spur population and economic growth throughout the five counties. Specifically, I support the Southern Indiana Youth Sports Complex project, which contributes to the overall strategy:

- This project will provide a competition sized pool, heated therapy pool and outdoor splash pad to the Central Complex which will be attached to and adjacent to the YMCA. The need for a pool in our area is beyond measure. Our county has been without an operational aquatic facility for over three years. This updated facility would provide opportunities for our local high schools to operate swim teams, provide

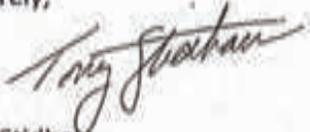
swim lessons for our youth and adults, and provide a recreational area for families that is safe and centrally located.

• The need for additional facilities in our area is the key to Scott County and surrounding counties continuing to grow and develop. The addition of soccer fields, baseball/softball and diamonds, and other recreational activity areas would provide safe areas for our community to develop healthy lifestyles, promote family engagement opportunities and provide areas for our youth to development physically, socially, and mentally.

Implementation of Our Region | Our Plan will provide opportunities for all of our regional citizens to participate in all of our regional growth. My support of this Plan is inclusive of the overall strategies and projects, and I hope the READI initiative will recognize the value of strategies with a funding award. Addressing the barriers and priorities established in the plan will support economic growth for years and decades to come.

This letter is offered as a reflection of my full support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Tony Stidham  
Interim CEO/Childcare Director  
Scott County Family YMCA  
805 W Community Way  
Scottsburg, IN 47170  
Cell # 812-722-3174

